

Science Diplomacy Hub

Guidelines



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What is the Science Diplomacy Hub?

The Science Diplomacy Hub is a virtual platform developed and maintained by CUSP the Horizon Europe project *Consolidating European Science Diplomacy* (Grant Agreement No. 101287256), funded by the European Commission. We, the CUSP consortium, are providing this service free of charge to the community, as we are supported by the European Union.

The Science Diplomacy Hub is hosted within the technical environment of CONNECT HUB, a platform developed and operated by the CUSP project partner ENRICH GLOBAL. You can contact us at contact@cusp-project.eu with any content related questions. For technical questions, please contact tech@enrich-global.eu.

This short guide explains what the Science Diplomacy Hub is, why it is worth joining, how to become a member, and how to make the most of the tools it offers to connect, share knowledge and collaborate. Whether you are a diplomat, researcher, policymaker, science advisor or simply curious about science diplomacy, these pages will help you get started and find your place in the community.

Join the Science Diplomacy Hub at:

<https://hub.science-diplomacy.eu/communities/science-diplomacy-hub>

Why join the Science Diplomacy Hub?

*The Hub is designed to serve as a **central node for the European science diplomacy community and beyond**: a shared space to connect with relevant people, access and exchange knowledge, and discover opportunities.*

By joining you can:

- Create a profile and connect with peers across Europe and beyond: diplomats, science advisors, researchers, policy officers, alumni networks and international organisations... in one trusted space.
- Apply to join the thematic CUSP Working Groups on the topics that matter to you, from science diplomacy for foreign and security policy to the global commons, innovation and technology diplomacy, diaspora engagement, polar and ocean diplomacy, and culture- and arts-based diplomacy and more, or start your own - under certain terms and conditions (for more information get in touch with us)
- Access the knowledge base which CUSP will develop over the next three years: the common taxonomy, the AI-assisted mapping tool, country and regional fiches, good-practice fiches, bibliometric studies and policy briefs.
- Share information on your own science diplomacy activities, events and publications with the community.
- Find science diplomacy colleagues with specific expertise and research interests using the search function.
- Use training and capacity-building resources that will be produced during the project in the coming years: competence frameworks, curricula and open educational materials co-created with the community.
- Stay informed about science diplomacy related events taking place organised by CUSP but also beyond and share your own event announcements with the community in our science diplomacy calendar.
- Take part in events and dialogues: Impact Days, the CUSP Conference (2028), webinars and regional policy dialogues, and find matchmaking and mentoring opportunities.
- Help shape Europe's science diplomacy agenda by contributing your expertise, feeding into CUSP Working Group outputs and on-demand policy advice.

How to join

Joining the Science Diplomacy Hub takes only a few minutes. Membership is free of charge.

1. **Go to the community page:** visit hub.science-diplomacy.eu
2. **Click “Join this community”:** You will be taken to a short sign-up form. (If you already have a CONNECT Hub account, you can join directly. You only need one account.)
3. **Create your account:** provide your name, email address and a password.
4. **Confirm your email:** click the confirmation link sent to your inbox to activate your account.
5. **Complete your membership profile:** Please complete the remaining profile fields as thoroughly as possible.

Remember: This is a professional community that thrives on members being able to identify one another, understand each other's expertise, and make pertinent connections. Without this information, the value of the platform is significantly reduced for both you and the community.

6. **Get approved and start exploring:** New memberships are reviewed by the community moderators. Once approved, you have full access to the knowledge base, events, the member directory, and more at the community level and share content yourself.
7. **Join Groups:** You need to submit a membership request for each group that you want to join by clicking “Request membership” in the group list.

Tip: Once you are a Hub community member you can also invite colleagues directly by email by using the “Invite someone” button on the top left and entering the respective e-mail address.

You can think of the Hub as a LinkedIn for science diplomacy – but more focused, more community-driven, and rooted in Europe. It provides a dedicated space where the science diplomacy community can connect, build active groups, and systematically exchange knowledge, documents, and opportunities.

What you can do at a glance

Once you are a member, the Hub gives you a full set of tools to connect, learn and collaborate:

Feature	What it lets you do
News & updates	Stay informed with community news and announcements, comment on posts, and follow what matters across the Platform and Working Groups.
Events	Discover and register for webinars, workshops, CUSP Impact Days, regional dialogues and the CUSP Conference, with a structured calendar view and event details.
Knowledge base & document library	Browse and download reports, policy briefs, fiches, guides and presentations, organised in folders: the heart of CUSP's shared knowledge.
Member directory & profiles	Find and connect with other members by name, expertise, location or organisation, and present your own profile and interests.
Private messaging	Reach out to other members directly and hold one-to-one conversations within the platform.
Meeting requests	Propose meeting time slots to other members and let them pick the one that works — ideal for matchmaking and mentoring.
Discussions & comments	Join the conversation by commenting on news, documents and other content, with threaded replies and notifications.
Forms & surveys	Take part in questionnaires, consultations and live polls run by the community and Working Groups.
Open calls	View and respond to open calls for contributions, applications or proposals, with clear deadlines.
Search	Quickly find members, news, events and documents across the whole community.
Inform the community	Share your own science diplomacy-related news with the community, including upcoming events, conferences, workshops, publications, funding opportunities, calls, and other relevant announcements. All submissions to the community are subject to review and approval by the community moderators before publication on the hub.
Networks and Working Groups	Join your networks and CUSP Working Groups by requesting access to the relevant closed groups. Browse the available thematic Working Groups and join those that match your interests or role. Each group provides a dedicated internal space for discussion, document sharing and collaboration available only for group members.
Notifications	You can select in your profile which types of updates you would like to receive automatic email notifications for, such as direct messages, news, events, and publications.

Community and Groups

The Hub is built around a **community level**, which every registered member automatically joins. At this level, you can browse all news posts, documents, and calendar events that have been shared with at the community level. You can like and comment on these posts.

All Hub members are also welcome to submit their own science diplomacy-related news and announcements. Please note that all news posts are subject to a validation step and must be approved by the community moderators usually within one working day before they are published.

The Hub thrives on the active participation and engagement of all its members, so we encourage you to share relevant science diplomacy news, opportunities, events, and other updates with the community.

In addition to the community level, members can participate in **dedicated groups** within the Hub. These include:

- **CUSP Working Groups** – Membership is by invitation following the respective application and selection process.
- **Community-driven Groups** – Members will be able to propose new groups around topics of shared interest. The procedure for establishing these groups will be announced shortly.
- **Science Diplomacy Network Groups** – The Hub provides dedicated spaces for existing science diplomacy networks, such as the EU Science Diplomacy Alliance, to facilitate communication and collaboration among their members.

Each group offers a dedicated environment for discussion, collaboration, and the sharing of documents, news, and other relevant information.

Most groups are closed, meaning that membership is granted by the group moderators upon invitation or approval of a request to join.

How it works

Posting New Content

To post new content, click **Manage Content** in the menu on the right-hand side and select whether you would like to create a **News**, **Event**, or **Document**.

A new page will open. From there, click **Submit a News**, **Submit an Event**, or **Submit a Document** in the right-hand menu. You can then choose whether to share your content with the entire Hub community or with one of the groups you belong to.

Please note that all submissions at the community level are subject to validation before they are published.

Joining Groups

To browse the available groups, click **Groups** in the main navigation menu.

Most groups are closed, meaning that membership requires approval by the group moderators or an invitation. If you would like to join a closed group, simply open the group page and click + **Request Membership**.

The group moderators will review your request, and you will be notified once your membership has been approved.

Manage Your Email Digest and Notifications

By default, email notifications are disabled but you can customise how often you receive email updates from the Hub. To do so, go to **Edit My Profile** and choose your preferred email digest frequency (e.g. **Monthly** or **Never**).

You can also decide which activities you would like to be notified about. In the same settings menu, you can enable or disable notifications for:

- Comments on your content
- Private messages
- Newly published news
- Newly published events
- Newly published documents

We encourage you to adjust these settings according to your preferences to ensure you receive the updates that are most relevant to you.

Content Validation Criteria

Content submitted to the Science Diplomacy Community Hub is reviewed before publication to ensure that it is relevant, respectful and aligned with the purpose of the community. Validation is not intended to assess opinions or scientific positions, but to ensure that contributions meet the following criteria.

1. Relevance

The content should be directly relevant to one or more of the following:

- Science diplomacy
- Science-policy interfaces
- International research and innovation cooperation
- Research security and research integrity
- Science advice
- Academic freedom
- Global challenges and international collaboration
- Activities of the EU Science Diplomacy Alliance or CUSP Working Groups
- Closely related disciplines or policy fields

2. Community Value

The contribution should provide value to the community by, for example:

- sharing knowledge or resources
- announcing relevant events
- inviting participation in consultations or initiatives
- presenting publications or project results
- asking substantive questions
- fostering discussion among members

3. Professional Standards

Content should:

- be respectful and constructive
- avoid personal attacks or discriminatory language
- be written in a professional manner
- not contain offensive or abusive material

4. Accuracy and Transparency

Where appropriate, contributors should:

- identify the source of information
- distinguish clearly between facts, opinions and personal views
- avoid knowingly sharing misleading or false information

5. No Commercial Promotion

The Hub is not intended for advertising.

Content whose primary purpose is to:

- promote commercial products or services
- generate sales or marketing leads
- recruit for commercial purposes

will normally not be approved.

Exceptions may include announcements of research services, training opportunities or events that are directly relevant to the science diplomacy community.

6. Respect for Legal and Ethical Standards

Content must:

- respect copyright and intellectual property rights
- comply with applicable data protection legislation
- not disclose confidential information without permission

7. Political Neutrality

The Hub welcomes discussion on science diplomacy, policy and international cooperation.

However, content whose primary purpose is:

- party-political campaigning
- lobbying for electoral purposes
- ideological or extremist advocacy
- inflammatory political messaging

will not be approved.

8. Duplicates and Spam

The following may be declined:

- duplicate posts
- repetitive announcements
- automated or spam content
- excessive cross-posting

9. Editorial Review

Moderators may make minor editorial changes (e.g. formatting, titles, tags or categorisation) to improve readability or consistency without altering the meaning of the content.

10. Right to Decline

Moderators reserve the right not to publish content that does not meet these criteria or that is clearly inconsistent with the purpose and values of the Community Hub.

About the CUSP project

European science diplomacy is gaining strategic importance amidst shifting geopolitics, global challenges, and the rising need for open yet sovereign research and innovation (R&I) ecosystems, as recognised by the global approach to R&I and the new European Framework for Science Diplomacy. However, while Europe boasts immense scientific strength and diplomatic expertise, its science diplomacy efforts remain fragmented across different countries and institutions.

Consolidating European Science Diplomacy (CUSP) is a Horizon Europe project designed to bridge these gaps and translate the new European Framework for Science Diplomacy into concrete action. By uniting scattered initiatives, CUSP ensures Europe's scientific strength translates into unified, meaningful global influence.

The project's mission rests on three core pillars:

- **Mapping** science diplomacy actors, strategies, and initiatives across Europe and beyond using an AI-assisted knowledge base.
- Establishing a centralised online **European Science Diplomacy Hub**, featuring ten thematic Working Groups and structured regional dialogues spanning Africa, Asia, the Arab States, Oceania, and the Americas.
- Co-creating a comprehensive **Competence Framework**, specialised curricula, and targeted training for diplomats, science counsellors, policymakers, and researchers.

Anchored in the EU Science Diplomacy Alliance, CUSP is coordinated by the Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI). It brings together a consortium of ten other partners: German Aerospace Center (DLR), Charles University, the Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Aarhus University, the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT), the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM Bari), ENRICH Global, and the National Research Council of Italy (CNR).

The Science Diplomacy Hub is the project's permanent online home. It is the digital space where the European Science Diplomacy Platform and its Working Groups live, where the knowledge base and training resources are shared, and where the community connects, exchanges and collaborates.