



## ESTEP Annual Event 2025

*“How decarbonisation, digitisation, and circular solutions forge the sustainable European steel future”*

28-30 October 2025  
Udine

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REA. B1 Future Low Emission Industries

# RFCS 2025 Big Tickets Calls: submission statistics

# The RFCS 2025 Big Tickets STEEL: submission statistics

RFCS 2025 **Steel (CSP)** Big Tickets budget:  
100 MEUR digital/greening transformation of the steel sector



Proposals submitted

7



Call budget

100 MEUR



Requested EC contribution

63 MEUR



Applicants in total

48

**29% resubmission rate**

# The RFCS 2025 Big Tickets STEEL: call objectives



Cross cutting issues:  
**digitalisation, skills and social innovation** in the steel sector

**CO2 neutral iron ore reduction**  
(Increasing the use of pre-reduced iron carriers)

Technologies to improve **energy efficiency**, increase heat recovery and enhance Process Integration (PI) approaches in steel production

**Advanced steel alloys** for special applications

**Circular economy** and sector coupling solutions to meet the zero-waste goal for steelmaking

**Carbon capture** of steel CO/CO2 gases

**CSP-1**

**CSP-2**

**CSP-3**

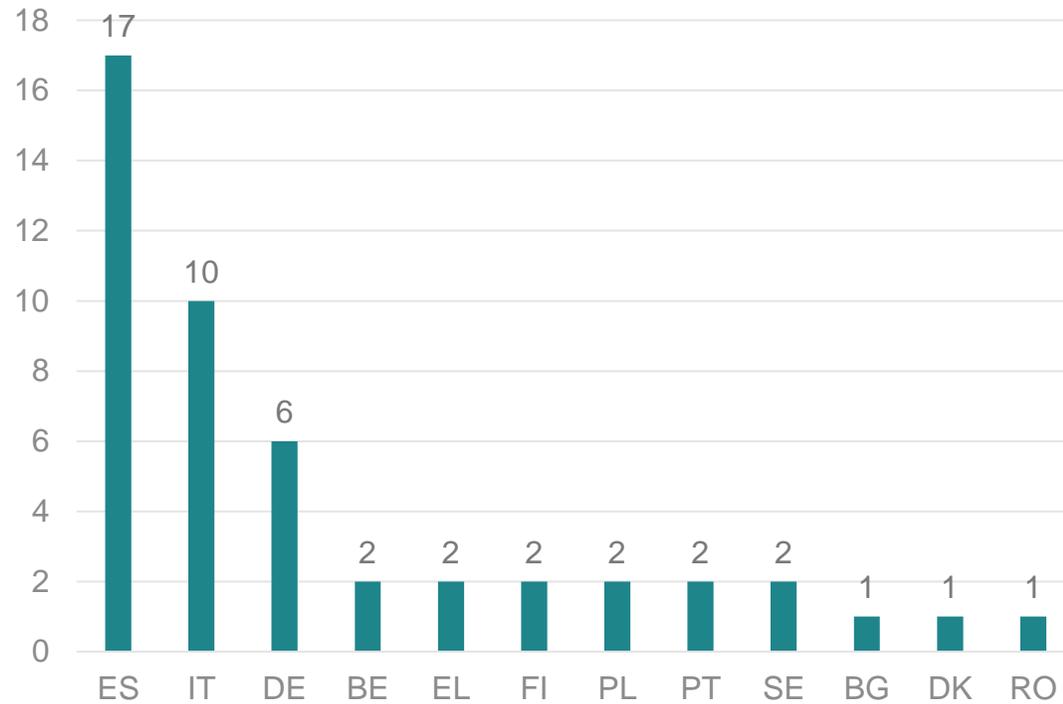
**CSP-4**

**CSP-5**

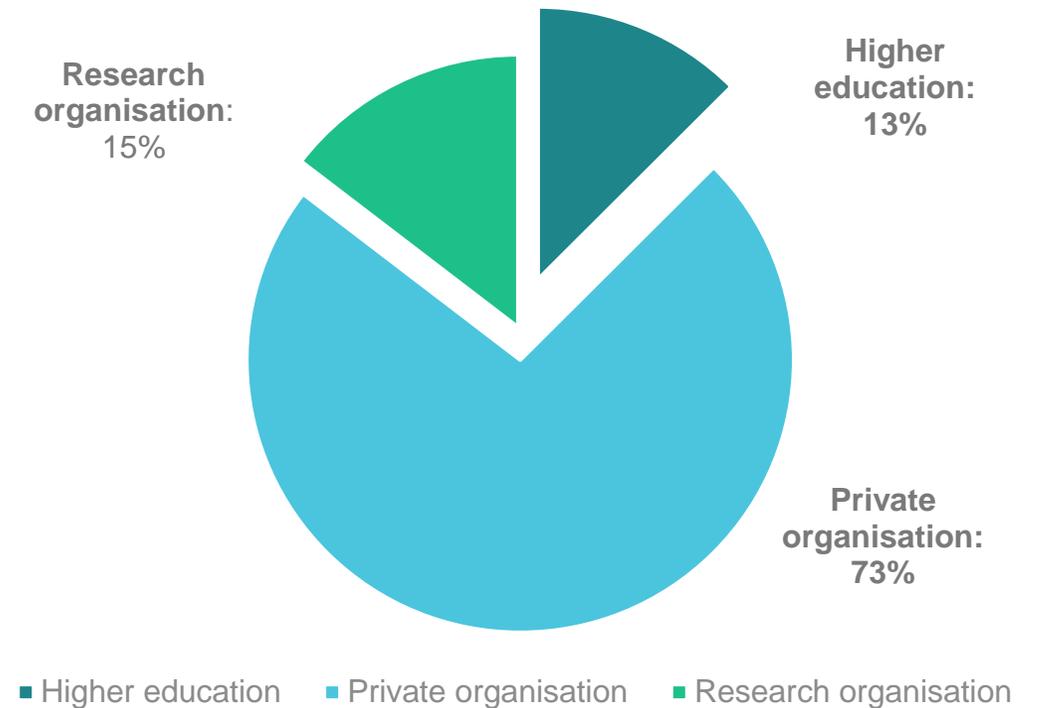
**CSP-6**

# The RFCS 2025 Big Tickets STEEL: submission statistics

Participants geographical distribution

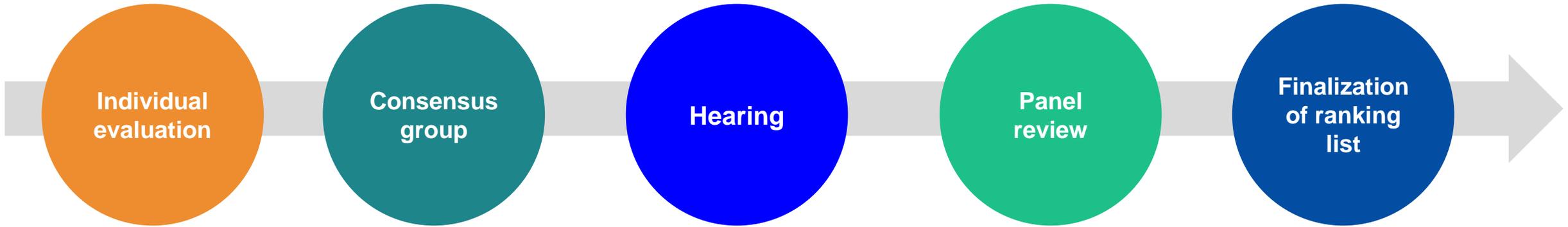


Participants type



# RFCS 2025 Big Tickets Calls: evaluation process

# The RFCS 2025 Big Tickets Calls: Evaluation process



Experts assess proposals **individually**.

Minimum of five experts per proposal.

- **4 technical experts**
- **1 EGD expert**

All individual experts discuss together to agree on a **common position**, including comments and scores for each proposal.

All applicants are invited to the **hearing**.

The panel of experts reach an **agreement** on the scores and comments for all proposals within a call, checking **consistency across the evaluations and taking into consideration the results of the hearings**. If necessary, resolve cases where evaluators were unable to agree.

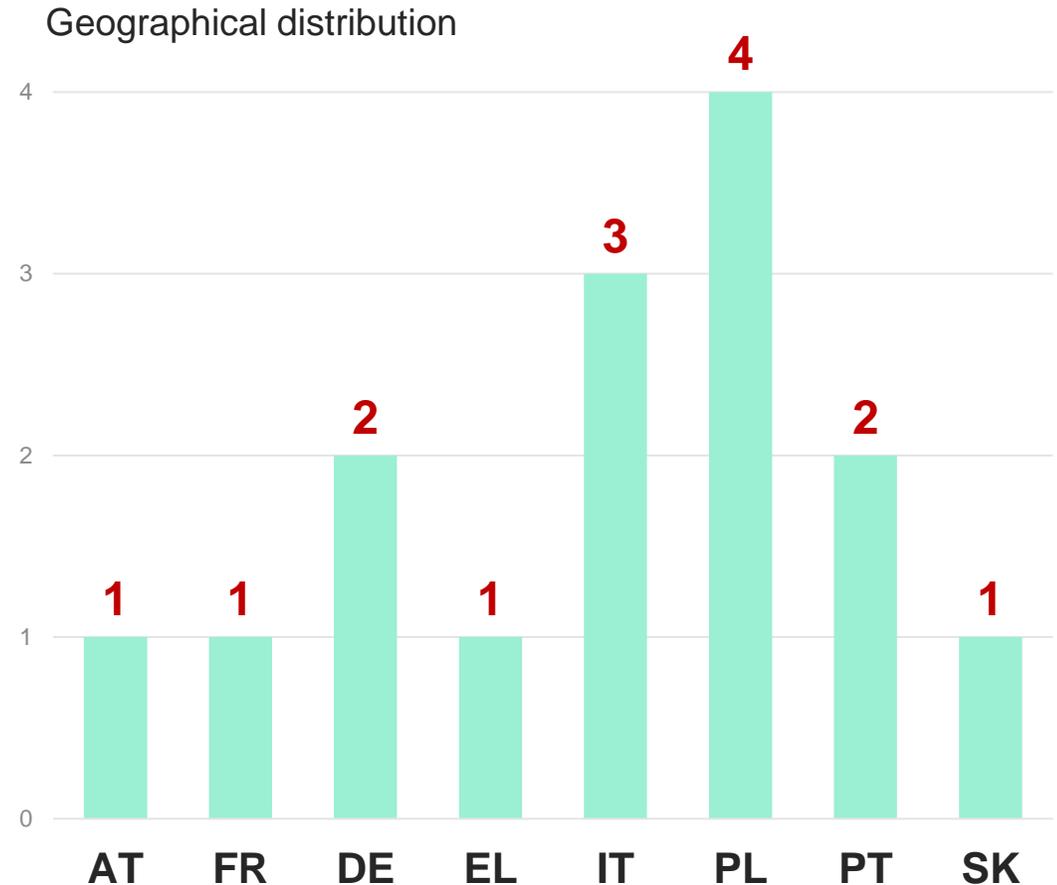
Rank the proposals with the same score.

The Evaluation committee reviews the results of the experts' evaluation and decides the **final ranking list**.

# RFCS 2025 Big Tickets Calls: experts' statistics

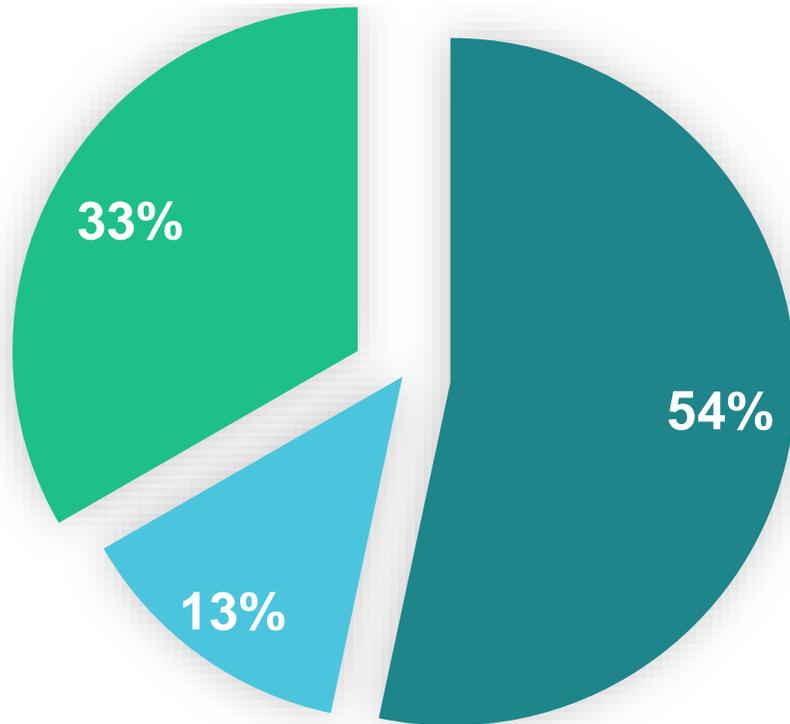
# RFCS 2025 CSP Big Tickets for Steel: experts' statistics

- **11 independent experts Evaluators**
  - 9 with Steel expertise
  - 2 with EGD expertise
- **2 independent experts Rapporteurs**
- **2 independent experts Quality controllers**
- **47% female and 53% male**
  
- **2 independent Observers (PL & PT)**



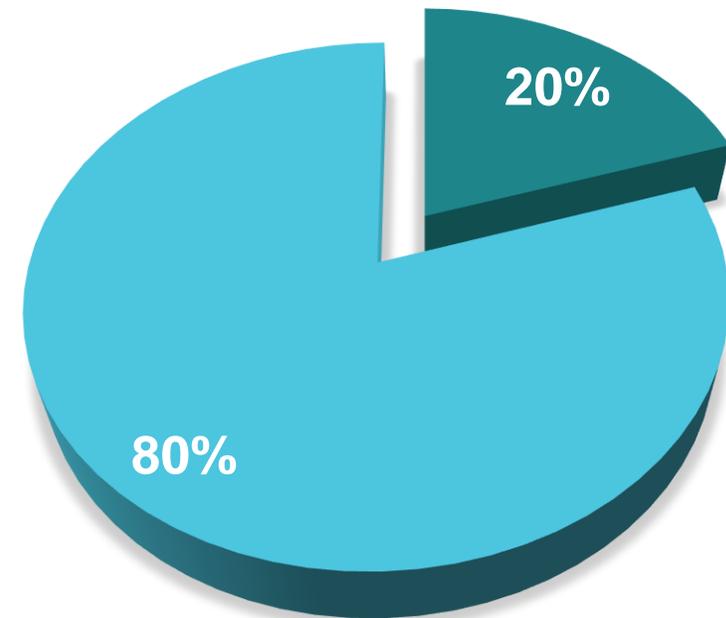
# RFCS 2025 CSP Big Tickets for Steel: experts evaluators

Organisation Type



- Private for profit organisation
- Research Organisation
- Higher or secondary education establishment

Industrial background

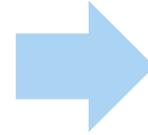


- No
- Yes

# RFCS 2025 Big Tickets Calls: evaluation results

# RFCS-2025 CSP statistics on main listed proposal

5 proposal main listed



success rate **71%**



Call available budget  
**100 MEUR**



Proposal budget  
**66 MEUR**



Grant requested  
**33 MEUR**

# Ranked List

## RFCS 2025 CSP Big Tickets for Steel

| Position | Status | Proposal Number | Proposal Acronym | Number of Participants | Proposal Duration | Proposal Budget | EC Recommended Grant |
|----------|--------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1        | Main   | 101254362       | RIVER            | 11                     | 54                | 13.879.800,80 € | 6.939.900,00 €       |
| 2        | Main   | 101254439       | GreenSteel4Rails | 11                     | 54                | 11.270.231,80 € | 5.635.115,90 €       |
| 3        | Main   | 101254442       | SUPERHEAT        | 8                      | 54                | 6.200.368,25 €  | 3.100.184,13 €       |
| 4        | Main   | 101254434       | SHINE            | 5                      | 48                | 29.446.746,10 € | 14.723.373,05 €      |
| 5        | Main   | 101254460       | BSI              | 7                      | 42                | 4.976.433,45 €  | 2.488.216,73 €       |

# RFCS 2025 Annual Call submission statistics

# STEEL: submission statistics



Proposals submitted

67



Call budget

1 MEUR for AM  
20.5 MEUR for RPJ  
7.6 MEUR for PDP



Requested EC contribution

129 MEUR



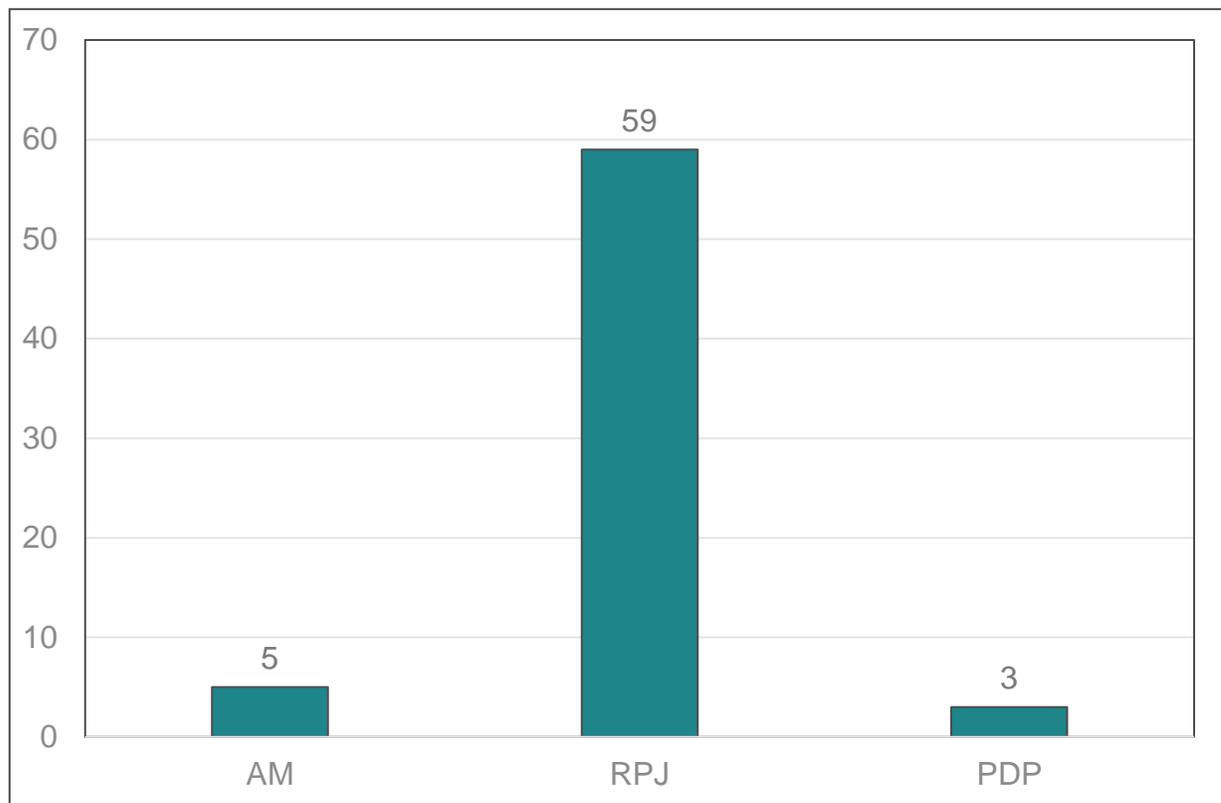
Applicants in total

484

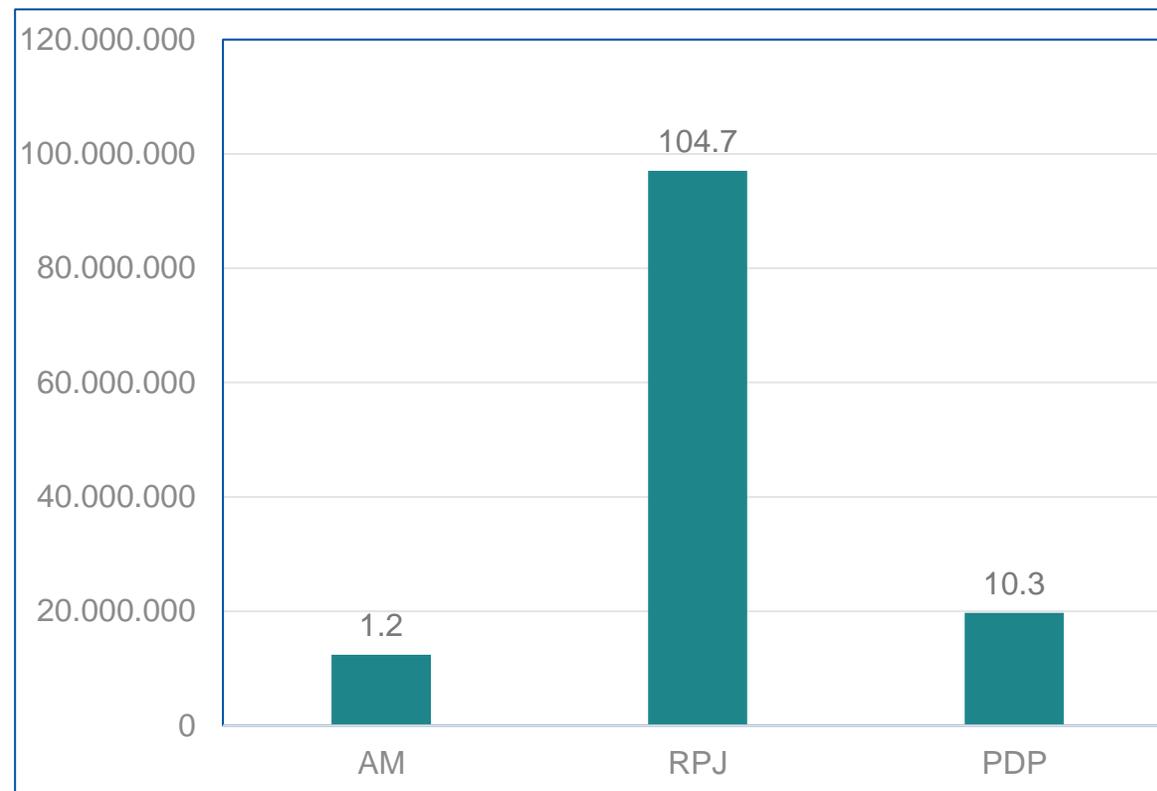
45% resubmission rate

# STEEL: submission statistics

N. of submitted proposals per instrument

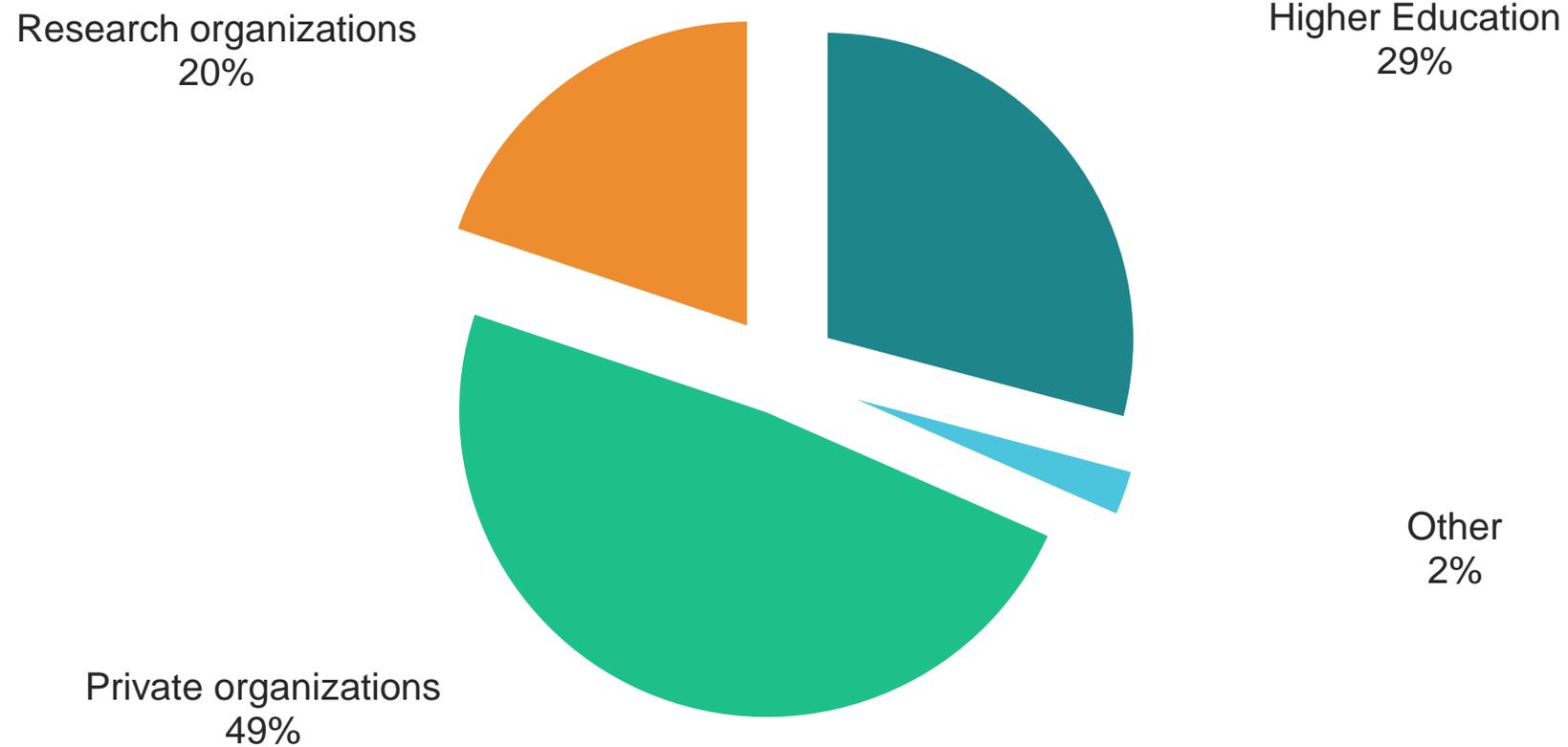


Requested grant per instrument (MEUR)



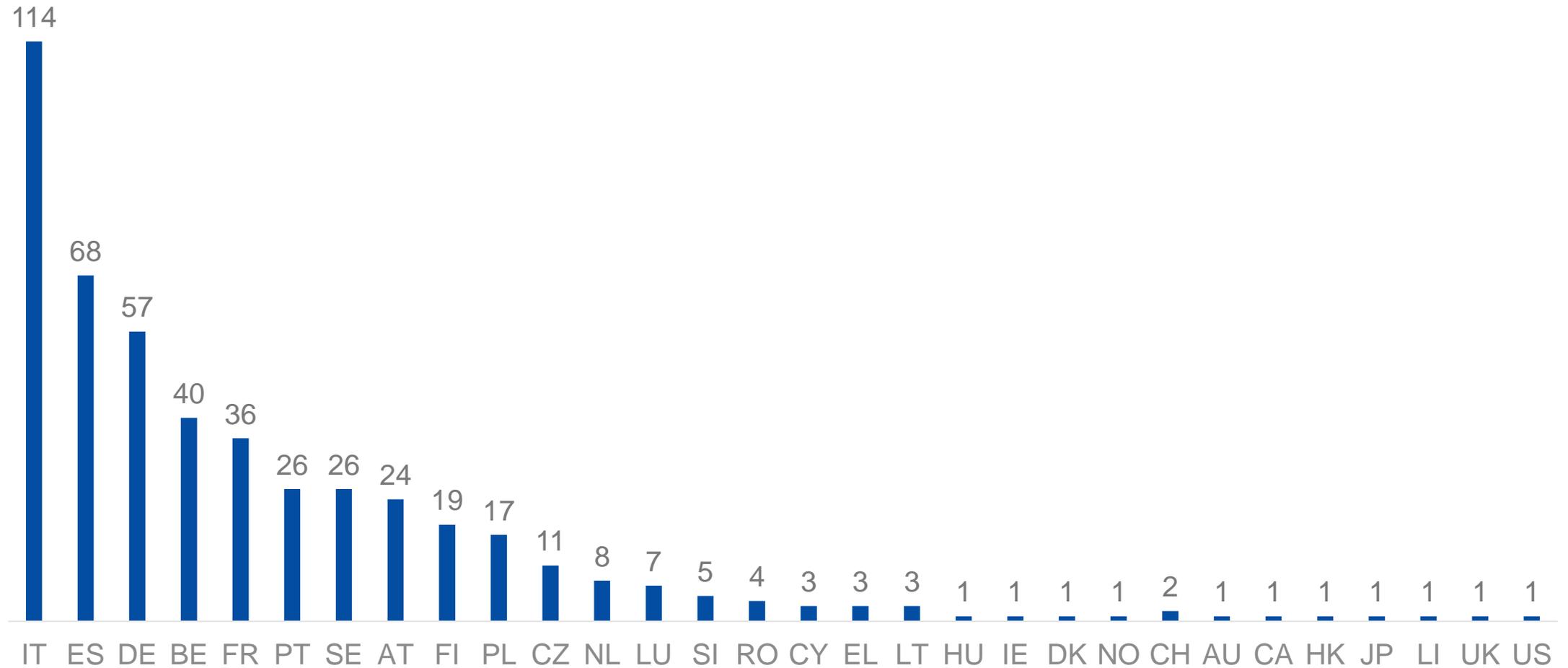
# STEEL: submission statistics

Participants type



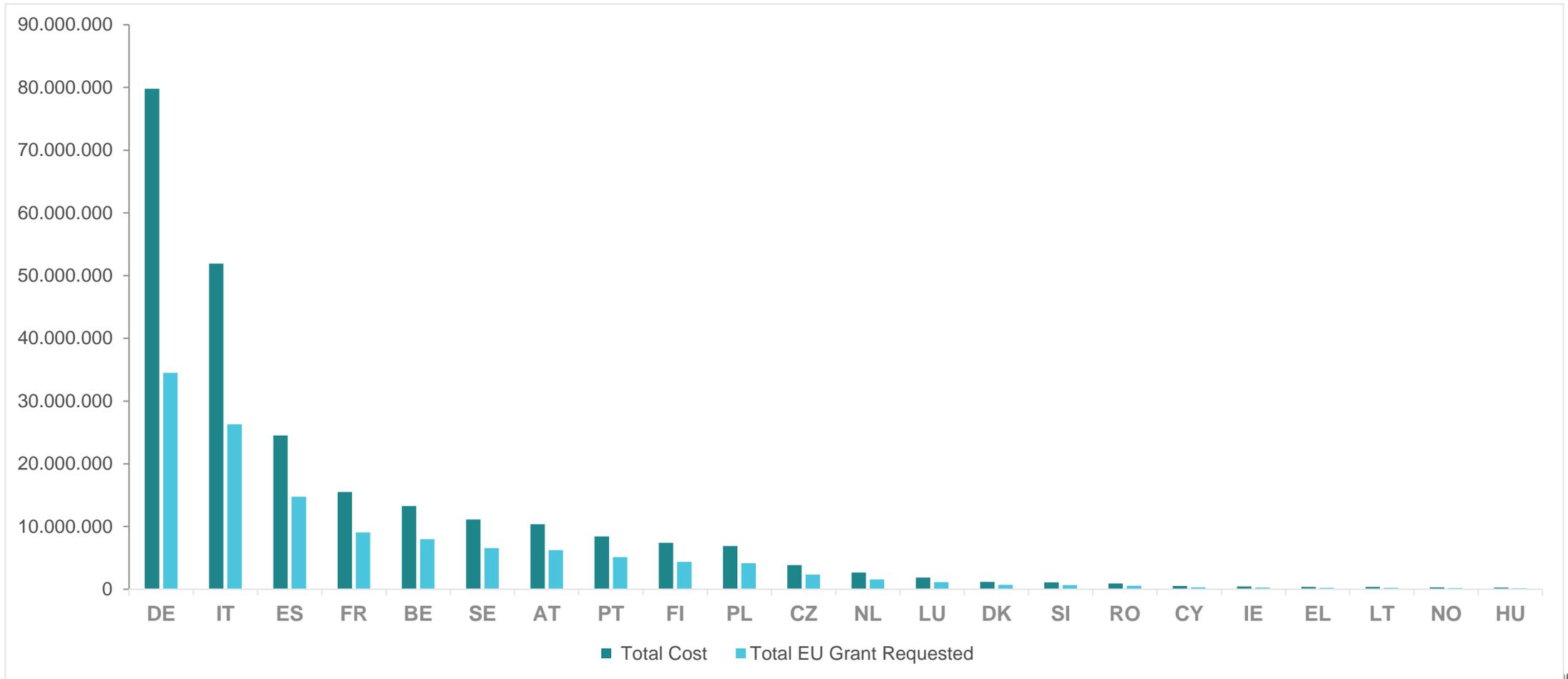
# STEEL: submission statistics

## Participants geographical distribution



# RFCS 2025 STEEL: total budget and grant requested per country (submitted proposals)

Total budget **243 MEUR**  
 Grant requested **127 MEUR**



# RFCS 2025 STEEL: submission statistics – Technical Groups

- **9** proposals for TGA1, Iron-and steelmaking
- **12** proposals for TGA2, Downstream steel processing
- **16** proposals for TGA3, Conception of steel products
- **18** proposals for TGA4, Steel applications and solutions for existing and new markets
- **12** proposals for TGA5, Steel factories – smart and human



# Budget commitment evolution 2021-2024

## STEEL





**THANK YOU!!**

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