EIC Accelerator

2025 & Cumulative Report

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Table of contents

PART 1 | 2025 Data

3 Why this report?
4 Open vs Challenge calls
5 Funding type
6 Companies funded by country
7 Funding type by country
8 Country summary - Heatmap
9 Female-led companies

PART 2 | Cumulative Data

11 Summary
12 Funding type
13 Winners per cut-off
14 Companies funded by country
15 Funding type by country
16 Country summary - Heatmap
17 Female-led companies

18 About the author | Methodology

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Why this report?

The European Innovation Council Accelerator [EICA] is the most coveted EU Funding Programme. It has been designed to provide up to €17.5mn until 2024 and up to €12.5mn starting from 2025, in grant and/or equity funding to European deep-tech companies. Since its pilot phase in 2019-2020, the EICA has become very popular among several tech ecosystems from across Europe. The funding programme has awarded more than €5bn to 803 companies since the launch of its fully-fledged version in 2021.

This report provides a data-driven outlook on the EICA in 2025 and cumulative results (2021 + 2022 + 2023 + 2024 + 2025). We present all the relevant data broken down on both a European and national level by # of successful companies, call type, and funding type.

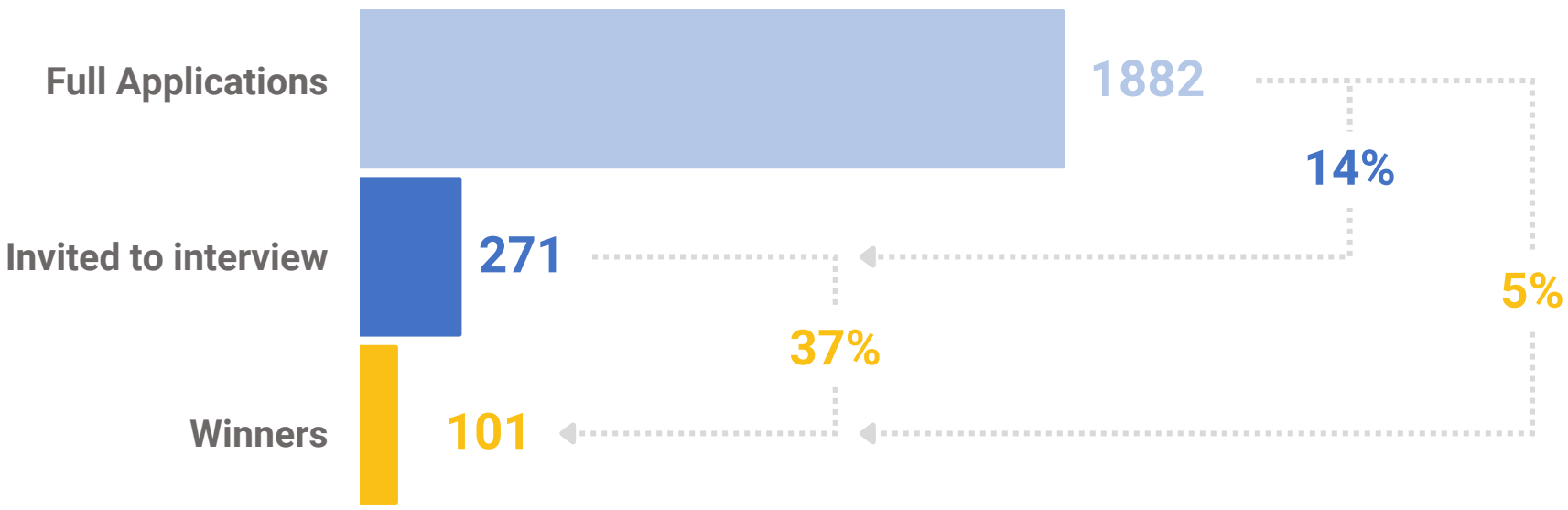
Summary 2025

101

Awarded companies

5%

Overall success rate



Female-led companies

A section of the report is dedicated to the successful companies led by female CEOs. We hope you will enjoy this report and find it insightful.

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Open vs Challenge calls

In 2025, 101 companies were selected for funding. Of these, 79 or 78% of the total were chosen under the **Open call.** 22 companies, 22% of the total, were selected through one of the five **Challenge Calls**.

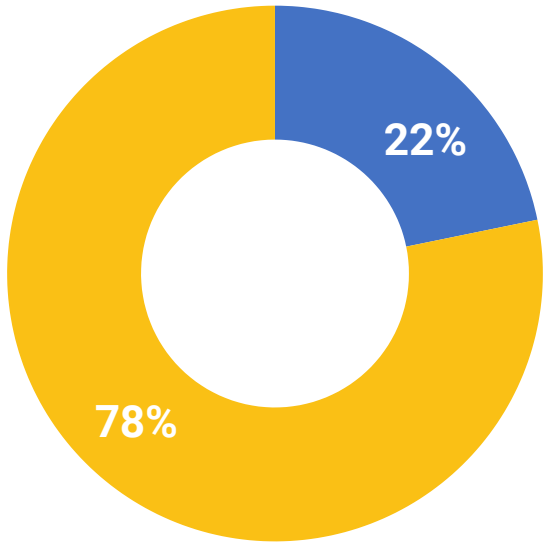
Call type

Number of companies

Open

Companies awarded

79



Challenge

Companies awarded

22

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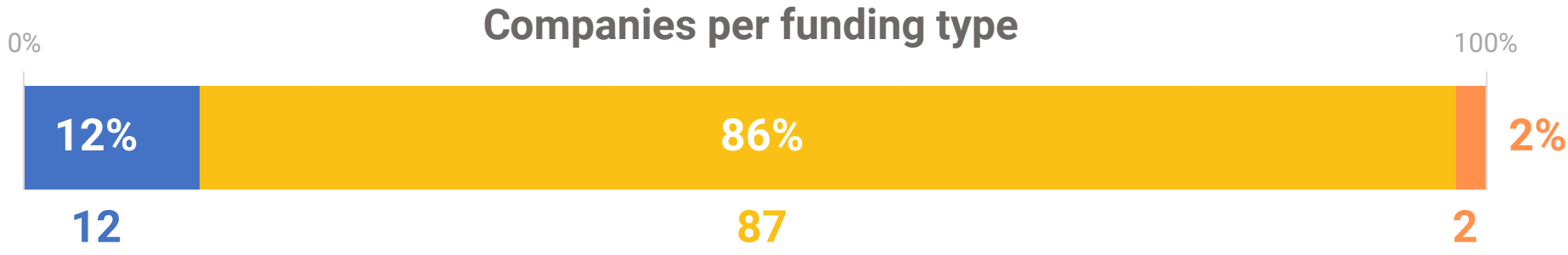
Funding type

In 2025, the EICA funding programme offered three funding types: **grant-only (GO), blended-finance (BF),** and **equity-only (EO)**.



Grant-only
for companies that require a grant and not equity to bring their technology from TRL6 to TRL8. Still, they have to show how they will fund 30% of the project costs and grow the company afterwards (TRL9).

Blended-finance
for companies that require grant + equity to cover all their capital needs while advancing/validating their technology and becoming more attractive for customers and private investors.

Equity-only
for companies that have already received an EIC grant, are at TRL8, and ready to scale. Companies can raise equity investment from the EIC alongside private investors.

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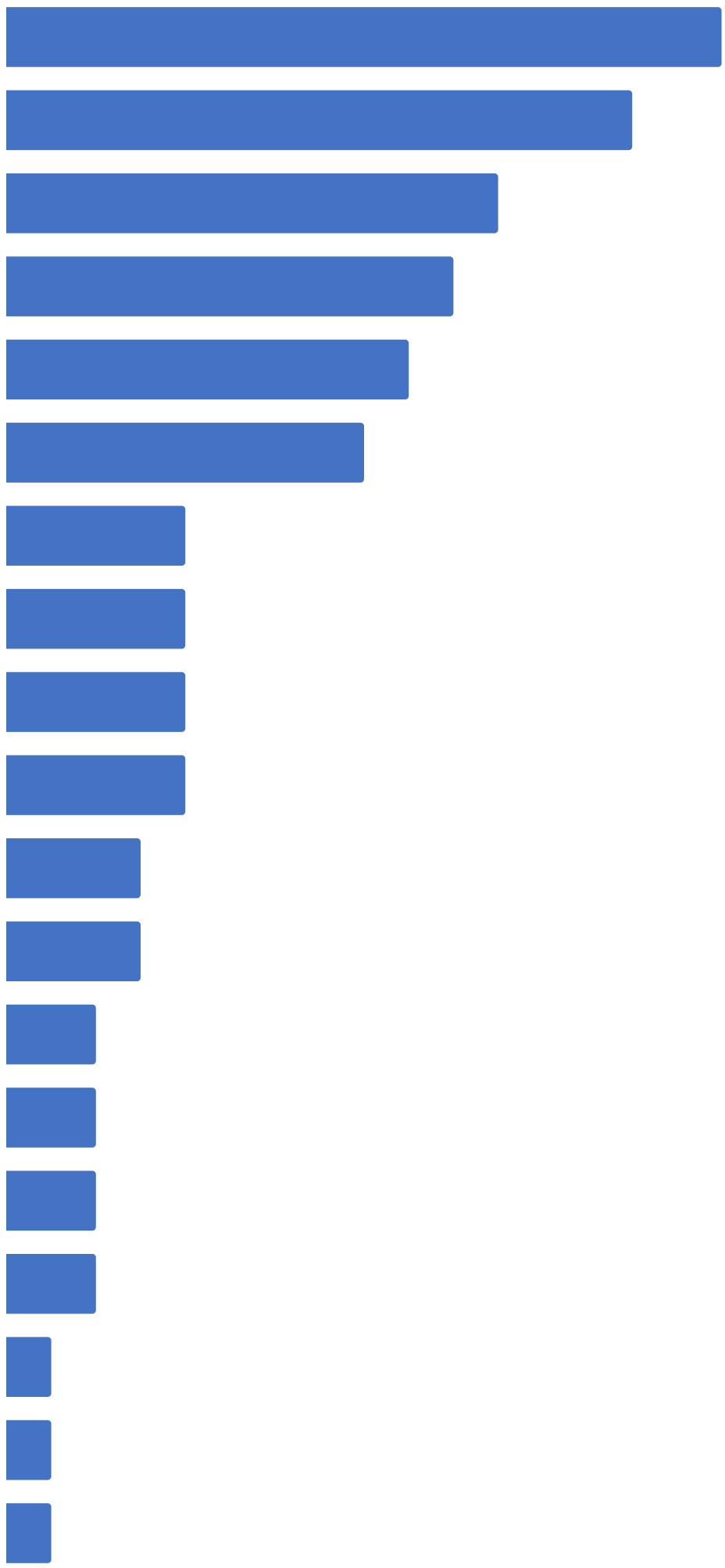
Companies funded by country

Germany	16
Spain	14
France	11
Sweden	10
Netherlands	9
UK	8
Denmark	4
Finland	4
Italy	4
Switzerland	4
Ireland	3
Belgium	3
Israel	2
Austria	2
Czechia	2
Poland	2
Norway	1
Luxembourg	1
Hungary	1
Total	**101**



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Poland	2
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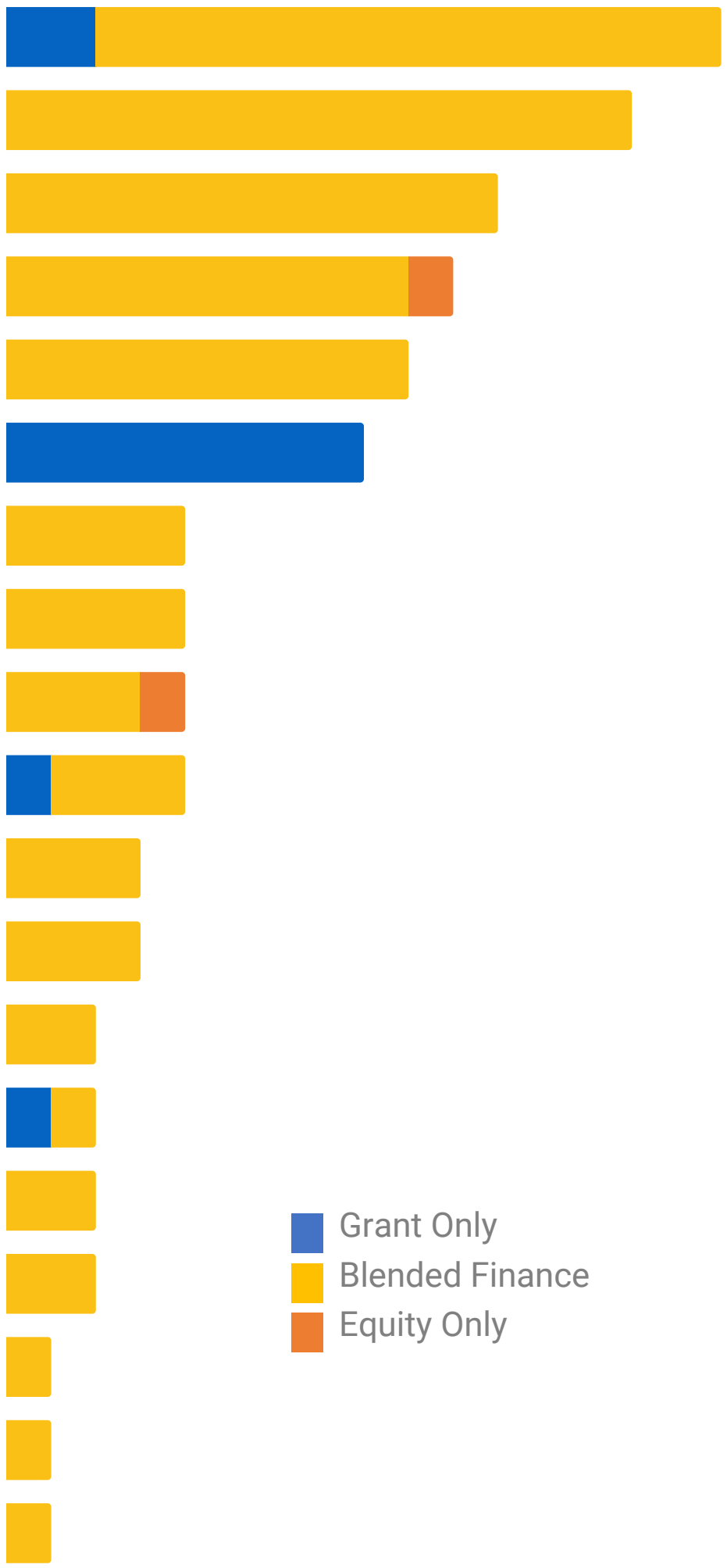
Hungary	1



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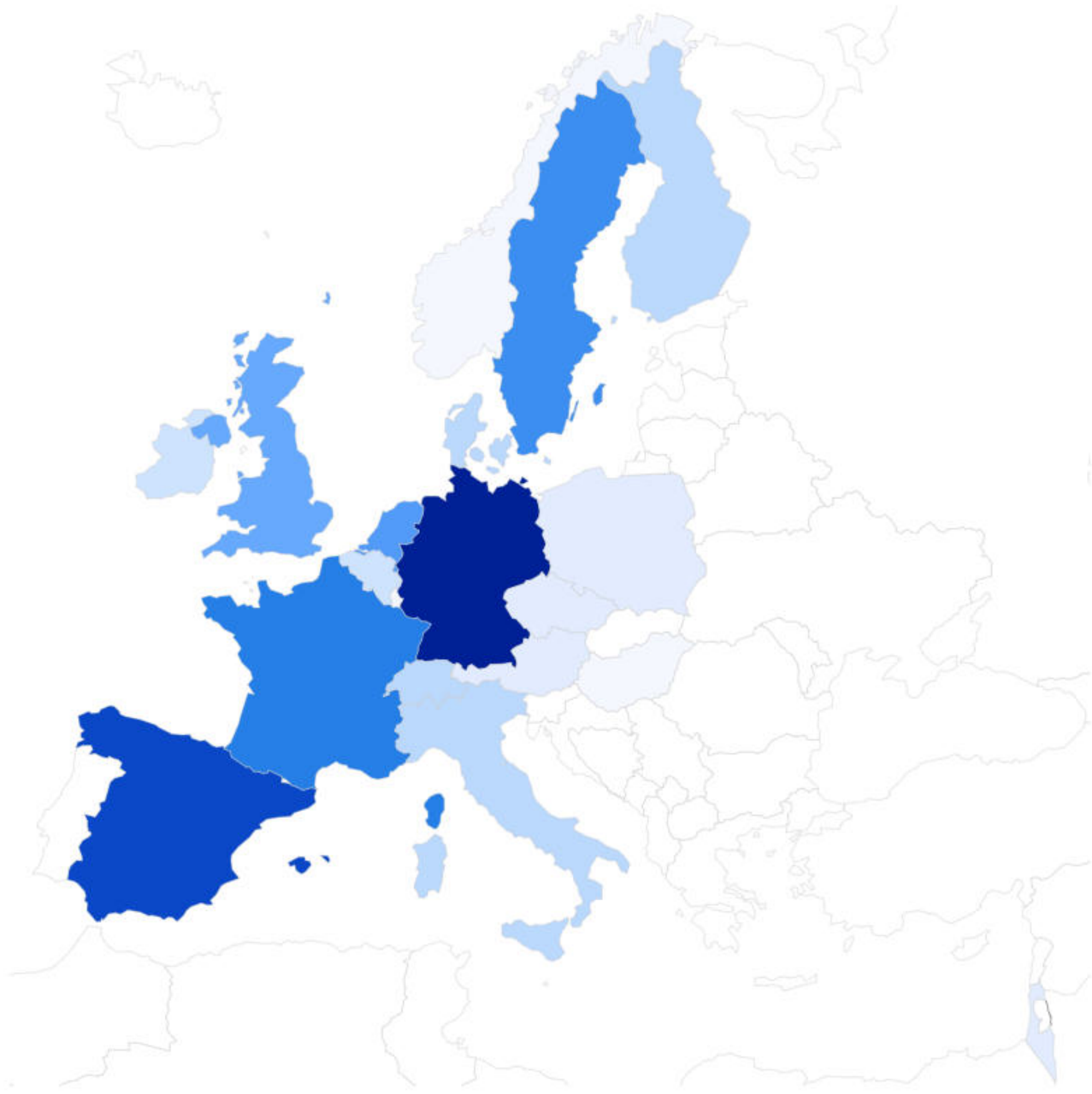
Country summary - Heatmap



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Female-led companies

18 companies out of the 101 successful cases in the EICA ‘25 were led by a female CEO. That represents 18% of the total awarded companies.

18

Awarded companies

18%

Of total

Country	Number of companies
Spain	4
France	2
Netherlands	2
Ireland	2
UK	2
Switzerland	2
Sweden	1
Norway	1
Denmark	1
Austria	1

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Cumulative data

2021 - 2025

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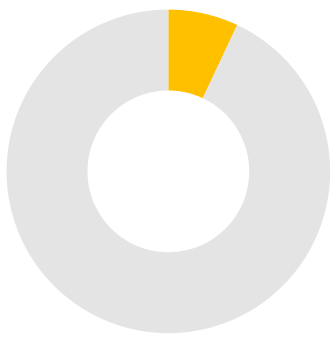
Summary

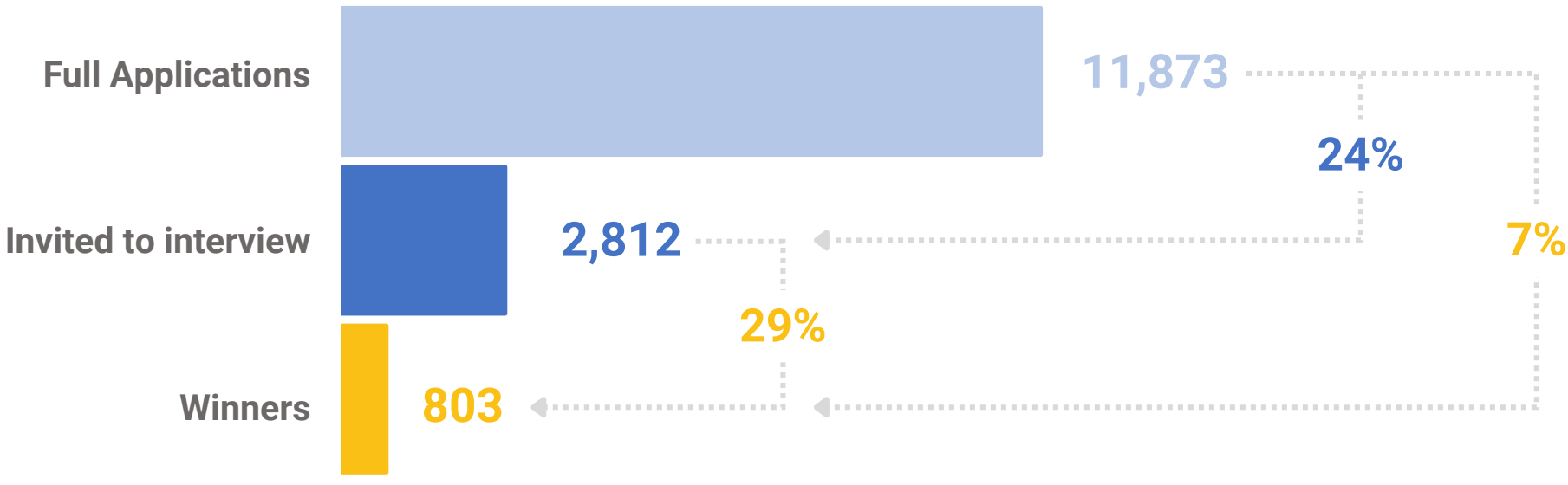
803

Awarded companies



7%

Overall success rate



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Funding type

Grant-only
for companies that require a grant and not equity to bring their technology from TRL6 to TRL8. Still, they have to show how they will fund 30% of the project costs and grow the company afterwards (TRL9).

Grant-first
for companies that are at a lower TRL (TRL5/6) and require a grant first to de-risk further. Providing these companies reach a key milestone they can avail of the remaining funding and become investor-ready. This funding type has been discontinued in 2024.

Blended-finance
for companies that require grant + equity to cover all their capital needs while advancing/validating their technology and becoming more attractive for customers and private investors.

Equity-only
for companies that have already received an EIC grant, are at TRL8, and ready to scale. Companies can raise equity investment from the EIC alongside private investors.

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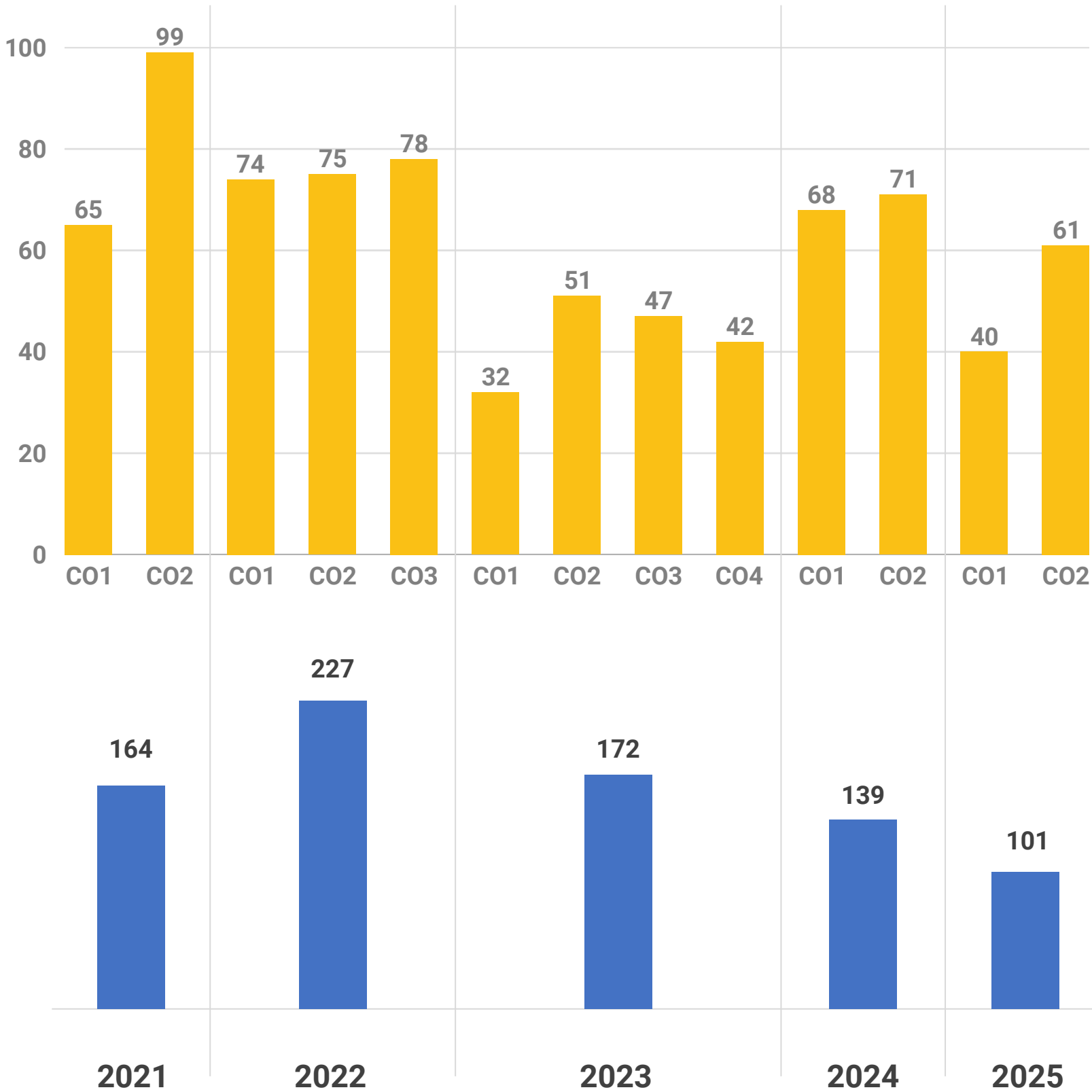
Winners per cut-off

In the following graphic, we present the # of successful companies per cut off since the launch of the fully-fledged version of the EICA in 2021. The # of companies has ranged from 32 to 99. In the first three years, 2021-22-23, the budget benefited from a “top-up” provided by the NextGenEU instrument.



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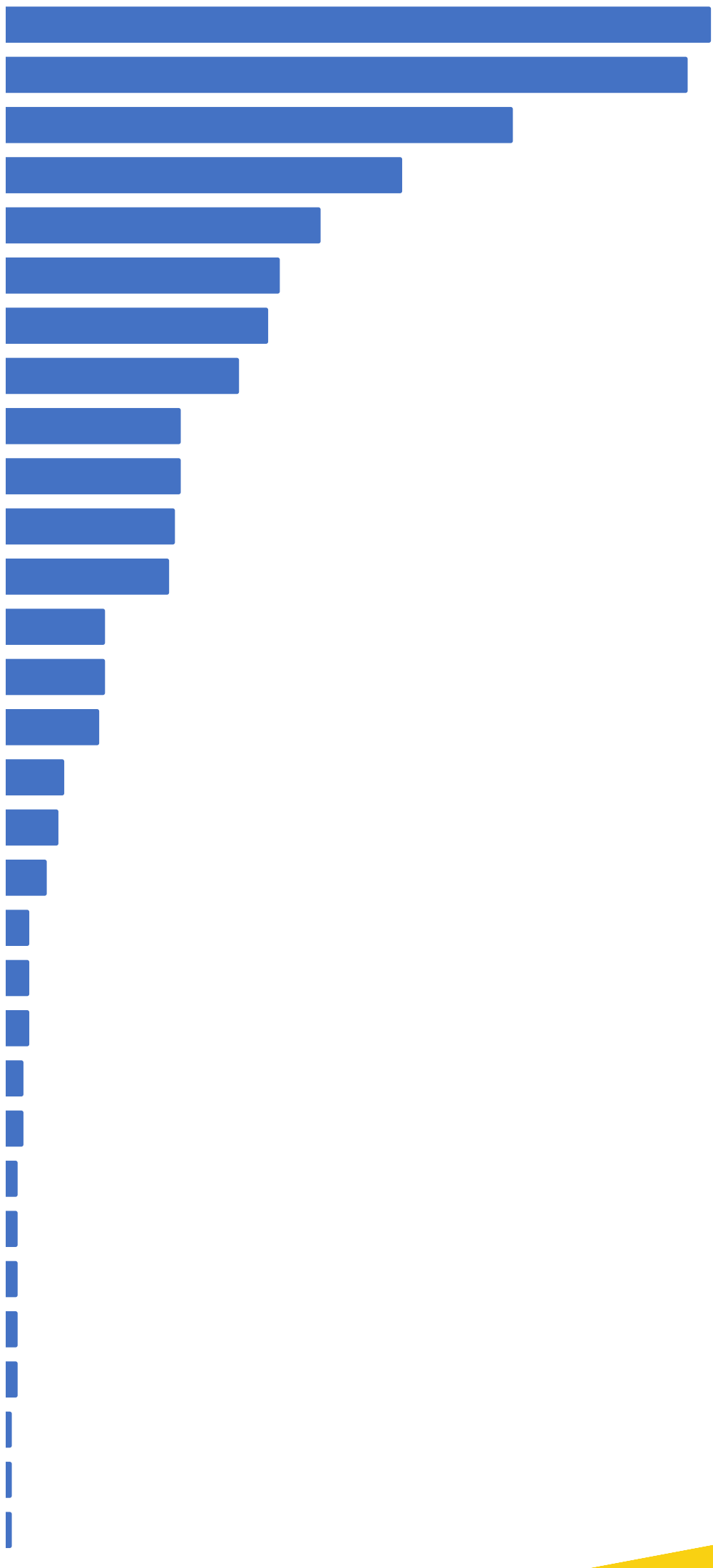
Companies funded by country

Germany	121
France	117
Netherlands	87
Spain	68
Sweden	54
Israel	47
UK	45
Finland	40
Denmark	30
Italy	30
Belgium	29
Ireland	28
Norway	17
Austria	17
Portugal	16
Poland	10
Estonia	9
Bulgaria	7
Czechia	4
Luxembourg	4
Switzerland	4
Iceland	3
Greece	3
Slovakia	2
Lithuania	2
Croatia	2
Romania	2
Hungary	2
Slovenia	1
Latvia	1
Cyprus	1
Total	**803**



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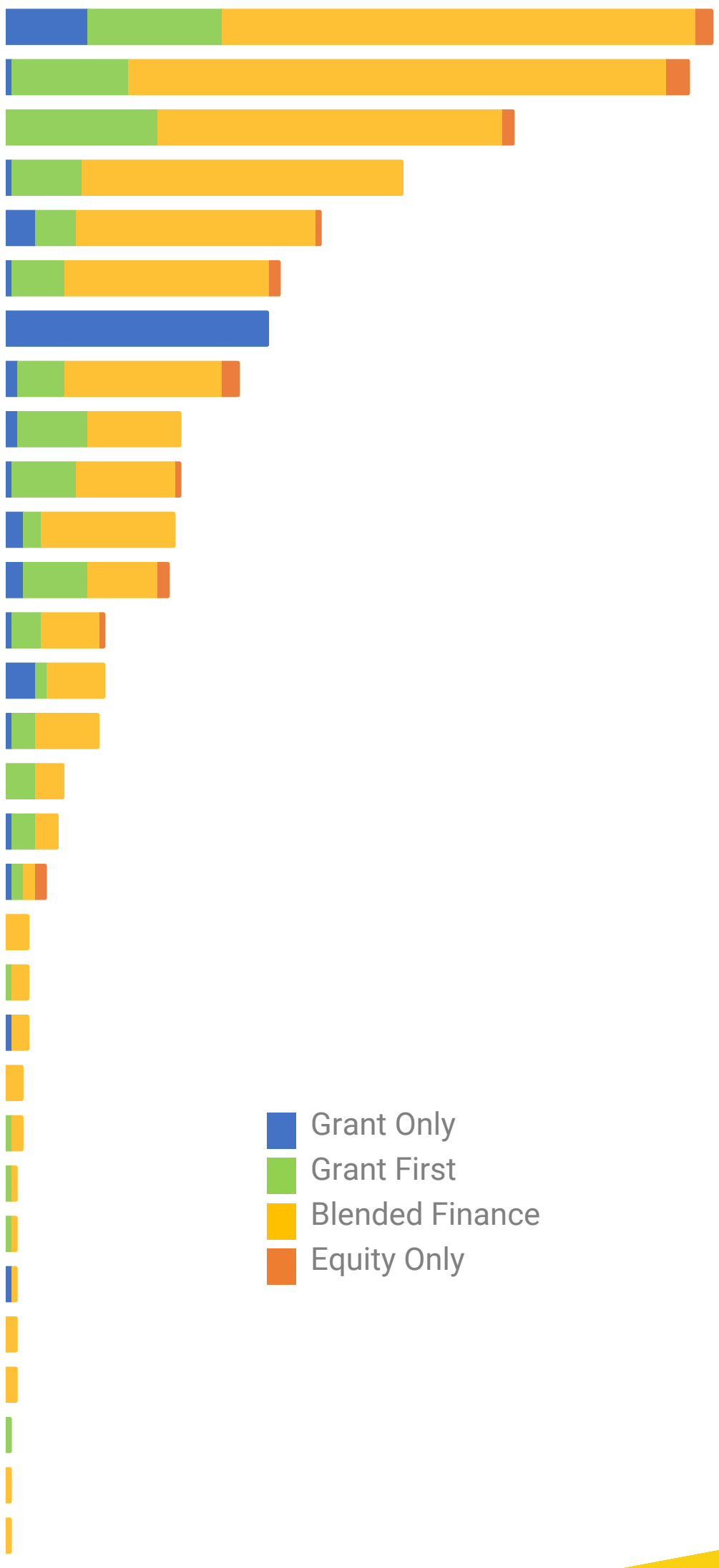
Switzerland	4
Iceland	3
Greece	3
Slovakia	2
Lithuania	2
Croatia	2
Romania	2
Hungary	2
Slovenia	1
Latvia	1
Cyprus	1



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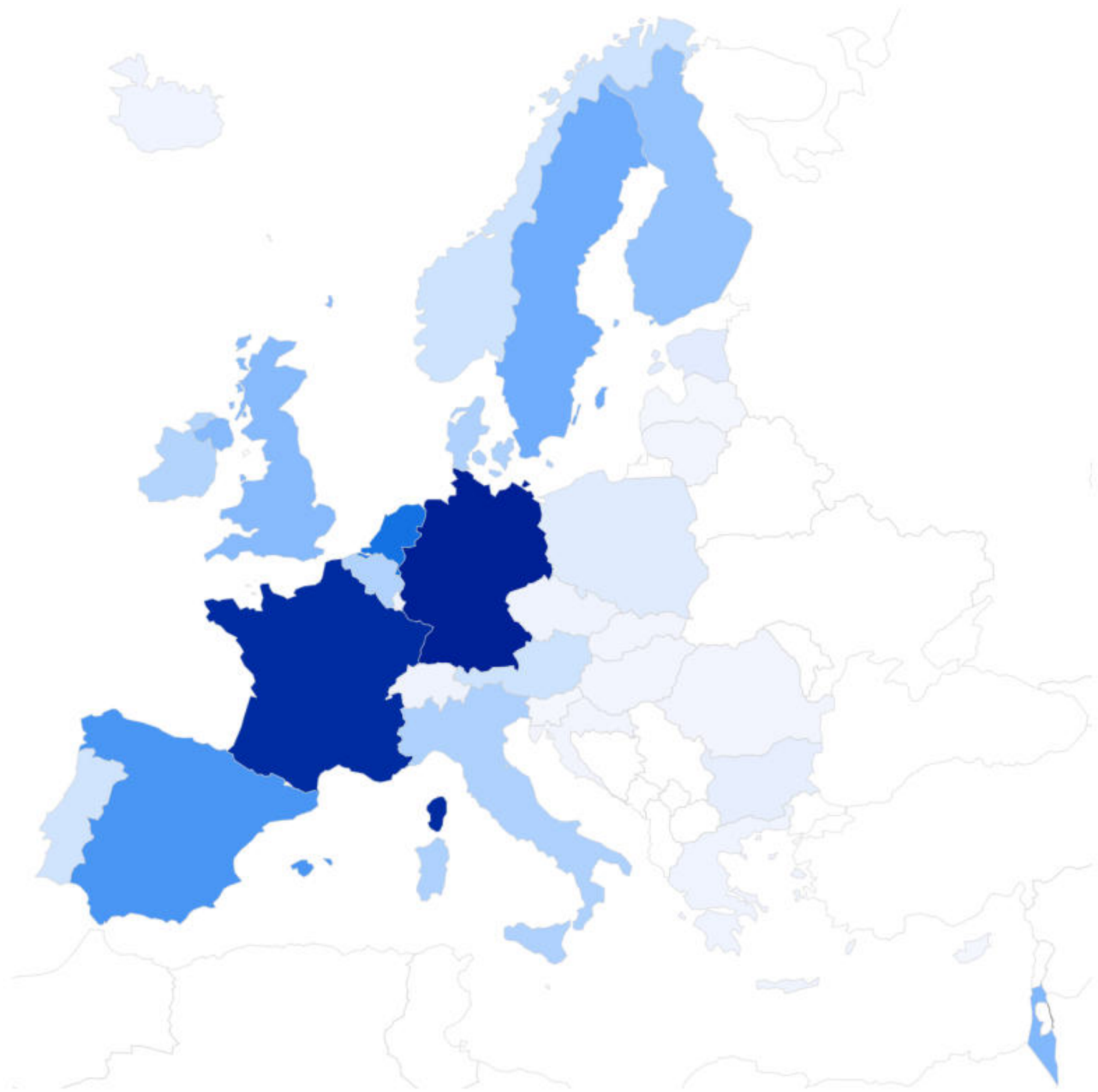
Country summary - Heatmap



1 121

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Female-led companies

122 companies out of the 803 successful cases were led by a female CEO. That represents 15% of the total awarded companies.

122

Awarded companies

15%

Of total

Country	Number of companies
Spain	21
France	20
Germany	12
Sweden	12
Netherlands	10
Israel	9
UK	7
Ireland	6
Finland	5
Norway	4
Portugal	2
Bulgaria	2
Poland	2
Switzerland	2
Denmark	1
Italy	1
Belgium	1
Estonia	1
Slovenia	1
Greece	1
Slovakia	1
Austria	1

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Conclusion

About the author

Emmanuele Angione

Emmanuele Angione is one of the Managing Partners at Lira - an international consulting firm headquartered in Dublin, Ireland. He holds an MA in Communication Studies and an MBA in International Business. He started his career in the online payment sector before co-founding Winmedical, a wearable MedTech company that went successfully from zero to exit in 8 years. He is an individual pre-seed investor focusing on early-stage, wearable MedTech start-ups.

Methodology

All the data used in this report is publicly available. Two data sources have been used/consulted. [1] The official European Innovation Council website provides information and data on the funding schemes, their calls, and funding allocation. [2] The database of projects funded by the EIC includes data and information on all the successful projects, the selected companies and funding type. Starting from the second cut-off in 2025, the EIC database no longer includes the requested equity amount, citing the reason that some companies may be unwilling to disclose that information. Data distinguishing between the Open and Challenge calls is no longer publicly available. Consequently, the information presented in this report is based on a detailed analysis of the selected companies.

Data sources
1. The official European Innovation Council website
2. The official database of projects funded by the EIC

Get in touch

If you want to learn more about this report or get more data-driven insights on the EIC Accelerator, please contact **ea[at]lira.ltd**

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