

# **#AdvancedMaterials**

# ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

Sophia Fantechi, PhD

Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, Prosperity Directorate, Industrial Transformation Unit sophia.fantechi@ec.europa.eu



European Commission

# Advanced Materials – what is covered?

## **OECD** working description

- Intentionally designed and engineered materials which have:
  - new or enhanced properties, and/or
  - targeted or enhanced structural features to achieve specific or improved functional performance.
- Advanced materials include both:
  - new emerging materials from innovative manufacturing processes (high tech materials) and
  - materials that are manufactured from traditional materials (low tech materials)



# **Policy Context**







- Advanced materials offer a wealth of solutions
  - Key enablers & innovation drivers for the Green Deal & Digital Transition
  - Many application areas across sectors, e.g.:
    - clean energy technologies for the **Net-Zero Industry Act**
    - potential to substitute Critical Raw Materials (CRMs) for the CRM Act
- ➤ Increasing demand expected for advanced materials e.g. for renewable energy, batteries, zero-emission buildings, semiconductors...
  - Improved efficiency and performance
  - Customer demand for circular, safe and sustainable products
- New Political Guidelines 2024-2029: Clean Industrial Deal
- Draghi report & Letta Report







# Advanced Materials for Industrial Leadership

Commission Communication COM(2024) 98 final – 27.02.2024

→ Setting out 14 distinct actions for 2024 and 2025 along 5 pillars...

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=COM%3A2024%3A98%3AFIN



# **Ambition**

To strengthen the EU's **resilience** and **open strategic autonomy** and to deliver on the **Green Deal and Digital Transition**, Europe must:

- > accelerate its advanced materials research & technology development
- scale up its innovation and manufacturing capacity and
- > step up the industrial uptake of advanced materials



# The Strategy



# Pillar V

Overall governance – Technology Council



### Pillar I

Advanced materials R&I: a launchpad for the twin transition, EU resilience & open strategic autonomy



## Pillar II

Fast track from lab to fab



## Pillar III

Increasing

capital

investment &

access to

financing



#### Pillar IV

Fostering the production & use of advanced materials







## 6. Horizon Europe partnership «Innovative Advanced Materials for EU»

- Co-programmed with industry (2025-2027) launch February 2025
  - 250 Million€ EU funding and at least equivalent private funding
  - Industrial Association IAM-I under set-up and SRIA under development
- If interested and not already involved reach out to DG RTD

## 7. Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI)

- Discussions with the Joint European Forum for IPCEI
  - AT in lead of an AdMat related IPCEI

## 8. European Innovation Council

New EIC topic for SMEs, WP2025

## 9. European funding instruments

Innovation Fund, Invest-EU, targeting topics in HE as STEP



# Common list of priorities – a starting point

#### 1) ENERGY

- a) Renewable and low carbon energy conversion and generation
- b) Energy storage systems
- c) Energy distribution and the transmission grid
- d) Renewable fuels

#### 2) MOBILITY

- a) Energy-storage and alternative fuels for different means of transport
- Advanced high-performance materials for lightweight, able to perform in harsh environments, highly reliable and durable transport applications
- c) Increased protection, resilience and durability for transport means and infrastructures
- d) Increasing circularity and addressing environmental performance of materials

#### 3) CONSTRUCTION

- a) Improving energy efficiency in buildings
- b) Making buildings structures more robust and longer lasting and better monitoring of structural integrity
- c) Greater wellbeing in buildings
- d) Advanced materials for better performance, including specific characteristics to perform in harsh environments, reduced energy consumption and new functionalities of electronic components

#### 4) **ELECTRONICS**

- a) Better performance, reduced energy consumption and new functionalities of electronic components
- b) Advanced materials for new chip production and packaging technologies



# Common priorities: crosscutting functionalities

- Digitalisation of advanced materials R&I: digital infrastructures, data & digital tools, automated labs
- Implementing the 'Safe and Sustainable by Design' concept will be at the core of the material transformation process
- Enabling circularity and use of secondary materials



