

Monthly Executive Briefing



European opportunities in biotechnology

geopolitical crossroads. The combination of political uncertainty in the United States and growing demand for dual-use technologies globally presents a major opportunity for European companies and governments. Yet across the continent, the industry still struggles with funding shortfalls and an urgent need for regulatory simplification. Since US President Donald Trump's announcement of sweeping government

The European biotechnology sector is at a

- funding cuts, international interest in US science jobs has dropped. Data from Nature Careers, a science-oriented recruitment platform, showed a 41% decline in European applications for jobs in the US and increased interest from American scientists in Canadian and European positions in March 2025 compared with March 2024. The European Union's Biotech Act, set for discussion in 2026, aims to simplify the regulatory landscape for investment and
- According to private equity groups, venture capital (VC) funding in European biotechnology and healthcare increased by

ease the commercialisation of discoveries.

more than 300% from 2007 to 2021 but still lags behind funding in the US and China. Across all sectors, EU start-ups attract just 5% of global VC, compared to 52% in the US and 40% in China. "We'll be putting an initially small tariff on pharmaceuticals, but in one year – one and a half years, maximum – it's going to go to 150% and then it's going to go to 250% because

we want pharmaceuticals made in our country."

US President Donald Trump to CNBC, August 2025



GSIS 2025 News:

 A unique and valued partnership has been established with Bitkom

partners <u>Edge Group</u> and <u>ST</u>

Engineering Application deadline for GSIS Accelerator is nearing. Submit your pitch deck before October

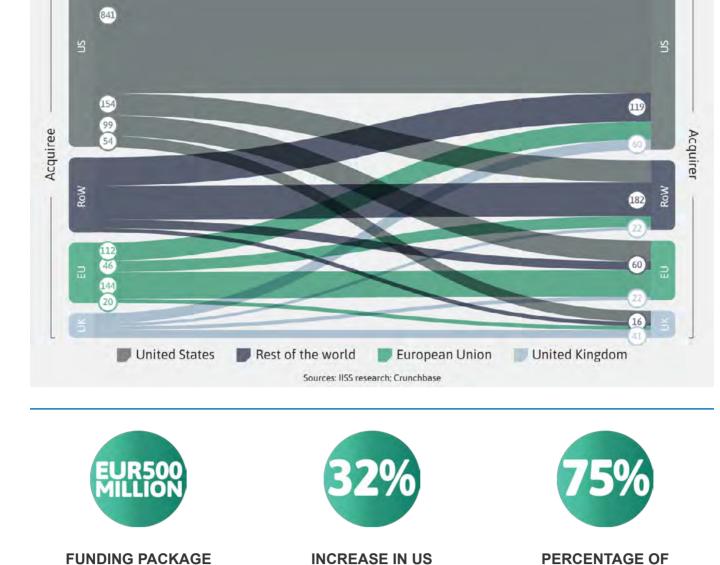
• A big welcome to GSIS

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Mergers and acquisitions flows in biotechnology in the last five years

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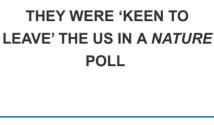
ANNOUNCED AS PART OF

THE 'CHOOSE EUROPE'

POSTED TO NATURE CAREERS IN MARCH 2025 COMPARED WITH MARCH 2024

APPLICATIONS FOR

EUROPEAN JOB VACANCIES



RESEARCHERS IN THE US

WHO RESPONDED THAT



contracts worth half a billion dollars terminated in one day in August. With the largest market share in

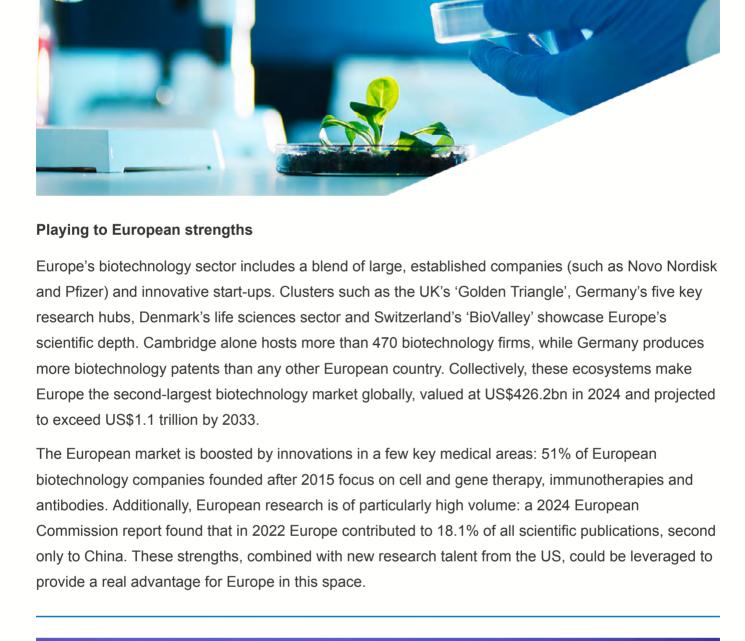
this opportunity.

mRNA vaccines and therapeutics globally, Europe is well positioned to attract increased investment and capture an even greater portion of the market, projected to be worth US\$8.7 billion by 2030. The funding squeeze is also pushing US scientists to seek employment abroad, providing Europe with a chance to attract world-class talent. Despite a strong track record in foundational research and patenting, Europe has historically struggled to attract US biotechnology experts due to an inability to match US salary packages. In response to this 'once in a lifetime opportunity', the United Kingdom

announced a £54 million global talent scheme to recruit foreign researchers in June 2025, echoing

similar moves by France and the EU. However, more funding will be required to take full advantage of

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL **ACTIVE BIOTECHNOLOGY VENTURE INVESTMENTS COMPANIES IN EUROPE** THAT WERE INVESTED IN (MARCH 2025) **BIOTECHNOLOGY AND** HEALTHCARE IN EUROPE, 2017-21



of European

competitiveness

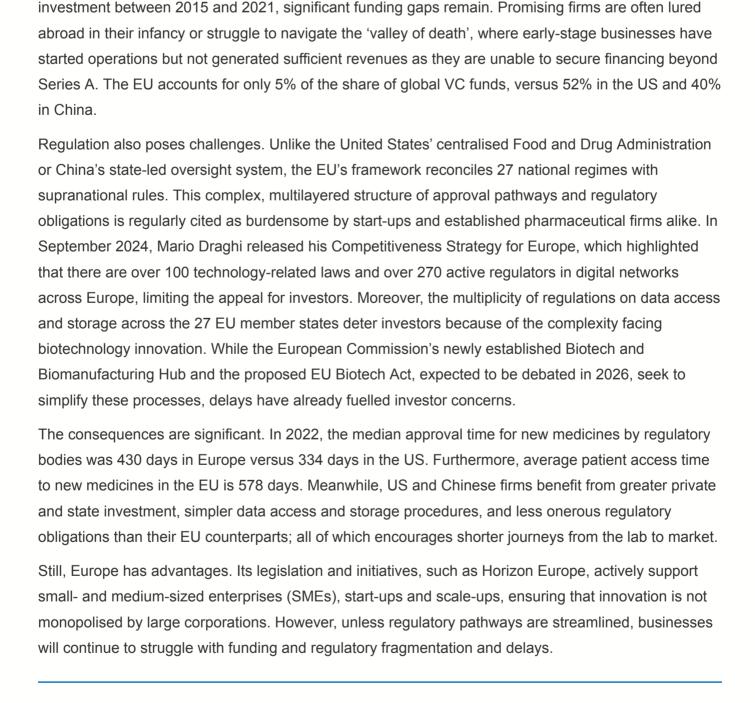
European Commission Commission européenn

However, beneath this promising potential lies structural weakness, notably affecting the innovation-to-

commercialisation pipeline. Despite a 13% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) in early-stage

The future

Funding and regulation challenges



proving to be a fertile ground for defence innovation. Following its Biotechnology and Human Enhancement Technologies strategy, in June 2025 the NATO Innovation Fund awarded its first accelerator contract to a UK-based biotechnology firm that uses protein sequencing to detect and

security and public health."

Looking ahead

European Parliament, June 2025

The promise of dual use

defend against biological threats. Aware of the critical need for strategic autonomy in this sector, the European Commission is actively seeking to encourage dual-use R&D. This includes the introduction of the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP), in which biotechnology forms one of three targeted investment areas, as well as the European Defence Fund's allocation of part of its 2024 €1bn budget to biotechnology projects NEUROQUAD (€4m), RESILIENCE-D-2024 (€9.8m) and RESILIENCE-R-2024 (€15m). Moreover, the EU is considering moving beyond its traditional exclusive focus on civil applications when allocating research funding, a shift that could pave the way for the next framework programme, FP10, to directly support projects with both civilian and defence applications.

"This fascinating new science and technology transcends different industrial sectors and is based on the use of and work with living organisms, of the force of nature. It does not only

enable ground-breaking innovations and manufacturing processes, it is of strategic importance in several different areas such as sustainability, economic security, food

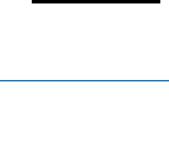
An emerging promising development in the sector is the increasing focus on dual-use technologies. From advanced materials and alternative fuels to biosensors and military medicine, biotechnology is

has a strong position in scientific publishing and houses multiple regional biotechnology hubs with a diverse ecosystem. However, a fragmented regulatory environment and difficulties in gaining VC funding make Europe less attractive for start-ups, which tend to need to move to the US to grow. Meanwhile, China, which leads the world in scientific-research output and comes a close second to the US for VC funding, will increasingly challenge Europe's efforts. **GSIS**®

To stay ahead of emerging threats and insights

Cuts to scientific-research funding in the US, combined with an uncertain policy environment, present a

real opportunity for Europe to innovate and gain ground in the biotechnology sector. Europe already



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