

Directorate- General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology
Unit C2 - Quantum Technologies
European Commission
1049 Bruxelles
Belgium

Bern, May 27, 2025

Quantum Strategy of the EU - Call for Evidence

Dear Commission Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the EU's reflection on the future of quantum in Europe with your recently launched call for evidence. As a close partner in the European quantum research and innovation landscape, the Swiss Quantum Initiative (SQI) welcomes this call and fully supports the goal to strengthen the strategic position of quantum science and technology in Europe. On this journey, no single country - especially a small one - can do well by itself.

Building on decades of research and development, Switzerland is currently working on further elaborating on its quantum strategy, with objectives similar to those outlined in the EU's initiative. In particular, we recognize the importance of building strong fit-for-purpose infrastructures and shared services, improving technology transfer pathways, strengthening cyber security and ensuring that quantum technologies transition from the lab to scalable and impactful applications.

While we fully understand the considerations of an independent quantum strategy for the EU, we believe that it is also important to collaborate and cooperate with like-minded countries such as Switzerland and bring further strengths to this shared European effort.

Switzerland's excellent education and fundamental research system has been pioneering in quantum research from the start. This results in a skilled quantum workforce, supported by strong academic institutions. Further, Switzerland has a strong track record in early innovation, particularly in foundational technologies. Combining this drive with the EU's capabilities will result in a very strong leading position for Europe in the field of quantum.

Advancements in the field of quantum still require curiosity-driven research and innovation with the brightest minds and boldness from entrepreneurs. At the same time, key technological advancements and scaling of complex systems can only be realized in larger consortia with organized sharing of responsibilities and risks.

Private investors are increasingly exploring the quantum sector more actively and we are glad about strong activities also within Switzerland. We believe that joint efforts to advance quantum technologies in Europe will provide greater confidence and encouragement to investors, helping to de-risk and accelerate engagements - both from a public and private investment perspective.

At the same time, Switzerland faces some similar challenges in a global context as several EU countries. While it seems fair to say that Switzerland is excellent in research and at producing early-stage innovations, we need to improve on further developing start-ups, scaling technologies and closing gaps between research and diverse markets. The investment culture in Switzerland is partly

(somewhat) risk-averse, which can make it difficult for young quantum companies to find the support and markets they need to grow. We are actively exploring new ways to create favourable conditions for deep-tech entrepreneurship and commercial growth.

We strongly believe that further and close cooperation between Switzerland and the EU will benefit the entire European quantum community and industries at large. The exchange of talent, ideas and technologies fosters innovation and progress when treated in an innovation-friendly spirit with deep networks and shared values.

We remain committed to open collaboration, aligned principles and coordinated, bold action – both through existing frameworks and new partnerships. And we look forward to contributing actively to Europe's quantum future.

We remain at your disposal for any further questions or an in-depth discussion.

Sincerely,



Prof. Nicolas Gisin
President of the Swiss Quantum Commission
University of Geneva



Dr. Andreas Masuhr
Head Swiss Quantum Initiative
Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT)