

Turkish MedTech SME Seeks Eurostars Call 11 R&D Partners for AI-Powered Paediatric Malocclusion and Mouth-Breathing Screening Platform

Summary

Profile type

Research & Development Request Türkiye

Company's country

POD reference

RDRTR20260820005

Profile status

PUBLISHED

Type of partnership

**Research and development
cooperation agreement**

Targeted countries

- Finland
- Poland
- Portugal
- France
- Denmark
- Spain
- Netherlands
- Czechia
- Ireland

Contact Person

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Term of validity

20 Aug 2026**20 Aug 2027**

Last update

20 Aug 2026

General Information

Short summary

The company develops OrthoAI, an AI platform that screens skeletal malocclusion and mouth-breathing risk in children (ages 4-8) from a single facial photograph, reviewed by a licensed orthodontist. Backed by an EU Seal of Excellence and a Harvard Capstone collaboration, the project is preparing a Eurostars Call 11 submission and seeks R&D partners to strengthen its AI/computer vision, software/data engineering, and clinical validation work packages.

Full description

OrthoAI is an AI-based screening tool that analyses skeletal malocclusion risk and mouth-breathing risk in children aged 4-8 from a single facial photograph. Every AI output is reviewed by a licensed orthodontist before any clinical recommendation is made, positioning the platform as a clinician-reviewed screening and communication aid rather than a standalone diagnostic device.

The project builds on the team's own published machine learning study (524 children aged 5-12, over 81% accuracy in single-photograph skeletal malocclusion screening), giving it a strong clinical and scientific evidence base. The project has also received an EU Seal of Excellence and was developed in part through a Harvard Capstone Project. The current consortium includes:

- An SME (Turkey) — coordinator, product and AI development
- A university (Turkey) — clinical execution
- A university (Italy) — scientific and methodological leadership, with the team led by the current President of the World Federation of Orthodontists

The company is now preparing a submission to Eurostars Call 11 (deadline 10 September 2026) and is looking for one or more additional R&D partners to join the consortium as full beneficiaries (not subcontractors) contributing real technical work and their own project budget. This also helps the consortium meet Eurostars budget-distribution rules (no single country above 70% of total costs).

Priority areas of interest for partners:

- Applied AI / computer vision expertise to strengthen model robustness, generalisability across diverse populations, and validation of the screening algorithm
- Software engineering and data engineering capacity to support data infrastructure, systems integration, and production-grade deployment
- Clinical or regulatory-adjacent expertise relevant to paediatric digital health tools (welcome but not mandatory, as this is currently subcontracted separately)

The ideal partner is based in a Eurostars country with confirmed national budget for the September 2026 call.

Advantages and innovations

OrthoAI combines a validated scientific foundation with a clear, narrow regulatory positioning:

- Evidence base: built on the team's own published study (524 children, 5-12 years, over 81% accuracy in single-photograph skeletal malocclusion classification) — a real, peer-reviewed clinical evidence base rather than a concept-stage idea.
- Recognition: EU Seal of Excellence; developed in part through a Harvard Capstone collaboration.
- Clinical credibility: scientific leadership team includes the current President of the World Federation of Orthodontists.
- Clean regulatory scope: positioned consistently as a clinician-reviewed screening and communication aid, not a standalone diagnostic device, reducing MDR classification risk and reviewer scepticism.
- Real-world relevance: addresses an underdiagnosed paediatric condition (mouth-breathing and skeletal malocclusion) using only a smartphone photograph, making screening accessible outside specialist orthodontic settings.
- Market potential: designed for integration into paediatric and orthodontic clinical workflows across Europe, with a clinician-in-the-loop model.

Technical specification or expertise sought

The consortium is seeking R&D partners with strong technical expertise in either AI/Computer Vision or Software/Data Engineering to contribute to the development and validation of a digital health screening solution.

For the AI/Computer Vision profile, expertise is sought in applied artificial intelligence, image processing, pattern recognition and computer vision, particularly in developing robust and generalisable models. The partner should be able to contribute to algorithm development, optimisation, explainability and validation across diverse populations, including variations in age, ethnicity and image quality. Experience in medical imaging or digital health applications would be an advantage.

For the Software/Data Engineering profile, expertise is sought in full-stack development, systems integration, backend infrastructure and data engineering. Relevant capabilities include the development of secure and scalable data pipelines, APIs, dashboards and clinician-facing interfaces suitable for a regulated digital health environment.

The selected partner(s) will be expected to take responsibility for a clearly defined technical work package, contribute to system development and integration, support technical validation and testing, and participate in dissemination activities. Experience in developing production-grade, interoperable and secure digital health solutions, including consideration of data protection and regulatory requirements, would be particularly valuable.

Stage of development

Under development

IPR Status

IPR granted

IPR Notes

The core intellectual property underlying the proposed solution is protected. A patent covering the AI-based system for the early diagnosis of skeletal orthodontic malocclusions has been

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being**
- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

IPR Notes

granted/registered, with international patent protection pursued in multiple jurisdictions. The project will build upon this existing protected technology while generating additional foreground IP related to further AI development, clinical validation, digital therapeutic functionalities and regulatory-compliant implementation. Ownership and exploitation of newly generated IP will be defined among project partners according to their respective contributions and the consortium agreement.

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The company is seeking one or more R&D partners to join the Eurostars Call 11 consortium as full beneficiaries, contributing real technical work and their own project budget (not as subcontractors).

Priority profile 1 — AI / Computer Vision partner:

- Applied AI, computer vision, image processing and/or pattern recognition expertise
- Experience taking models from feasibility through prototyping to production-grade deployment
- Ability to contribute to model robustness, generalisability across diverse populations (age, ethnicity, image quality), and validation/explainability of the screening algorithm
- Ideally, though not required, some experience in health or medical imaging applications

Priority profile 2 — Software / Data Engineering partner:

- Full-stack software development, systems integration, and/or data engineering expertise
- Experience building data pipelines, dashboards, or backend infrastructure suitable for a regulated digital health product
- Interest in contributing to production-grade software architecture supporting the AI model and clinician-facing workflow

Both partner types would be expected to:

- Take ownership of a defined technical work package within the Eurostars project
- Contribute to proposal preparation, technical development, validation, and dissemination activities
- Bring their own project budget from a Eurostars country with confirmed national funding for the September 2026 call
- Provide timely input on their work package description and required partner documentation ahead of the 10 September 2026 deadline

Their team leads the overall Eurostars application, platform submission (myeurekaproject.org), and coordination with national funding bodies, supported by our proposal-writing partner, so partners are not required to navigate the application platform themselves or manage the overall submission; their focus is on defining and delivering their technical work package. They are open to discussing consortium structure, work package definition, and budget allocation directly with interested partners.

Type of partnership

Type and size of the partner

Research and development cooperation agreement

- SME 50 - 249
- University
- SME <=10
- SME 11-49
- R&D Institution
- Big company

Call Details

Framework program

Eureka

Call title and identifier

<https://www.eurekanetwork.org/programmes-and-calls/eurostars/eurostars-call-for-projects-september-2026/>

Submission and evaluation scheme

One stage application

Anticipated project budget

750000

Coordinator required

No

Deadline for EoI

28 Aug 2026

Deadline of the call

10 Sep 2026

Project duration in weeks

156

Web link to the call

<https://www.eurekanetwork.org/programmes-and-calls/eurostars/eurostars-call-for-projects-september-2026/>

Project title and acronym

OrthoAI

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **01003012 - Imaging, Image Processing, Pattern Recognition**
- **01003008 - Data Processing / Data Interchange, Middleware**
- **06001002 - Clinical Research, Trials**
- **06001013 - Medical Technology / Biomedical Engineering**

Targeted countries

- **Finland**
- **Poland**
- **Portugal**
- **France**
- **Denmark**
- **Spain**
- **Netherlands**
- **Czechia**
- **Ireland**

Market keywords

- **05001001 - Diagnostic services**
- **05005017 - Dentistry / Odontology, Stomatology**

Sector groups involved

- **Digital**
- **Health**
- **Electronics**