



European Research Council (ERC) grants

Zuzana Šimek (Čapková), MSCA and ERC NCP, Technology Centre CAS
Grants Week, Masaryk University
14 October 2021

ERC IN HORIZON EUROPE (2021-2027)



ERC FUNDING SCHEMES

+ min. 50 % of working time spent in MS/AC

Starting Grants (StG)
(2-7 years after PhD)
≥ 50% time commitment
up to EUR 1.5 million
for 5 years

Consolidator Grants (CoG)
(7-12 years after PhD)
≥ 40% time commitment
up to EUR 2 million
for 5 years

Advanced Grants (AdG)
track-record of significant research
achievements in the last 10 ys
≥ 30% time commitment
up to EUR 2.5 million
for 5 years

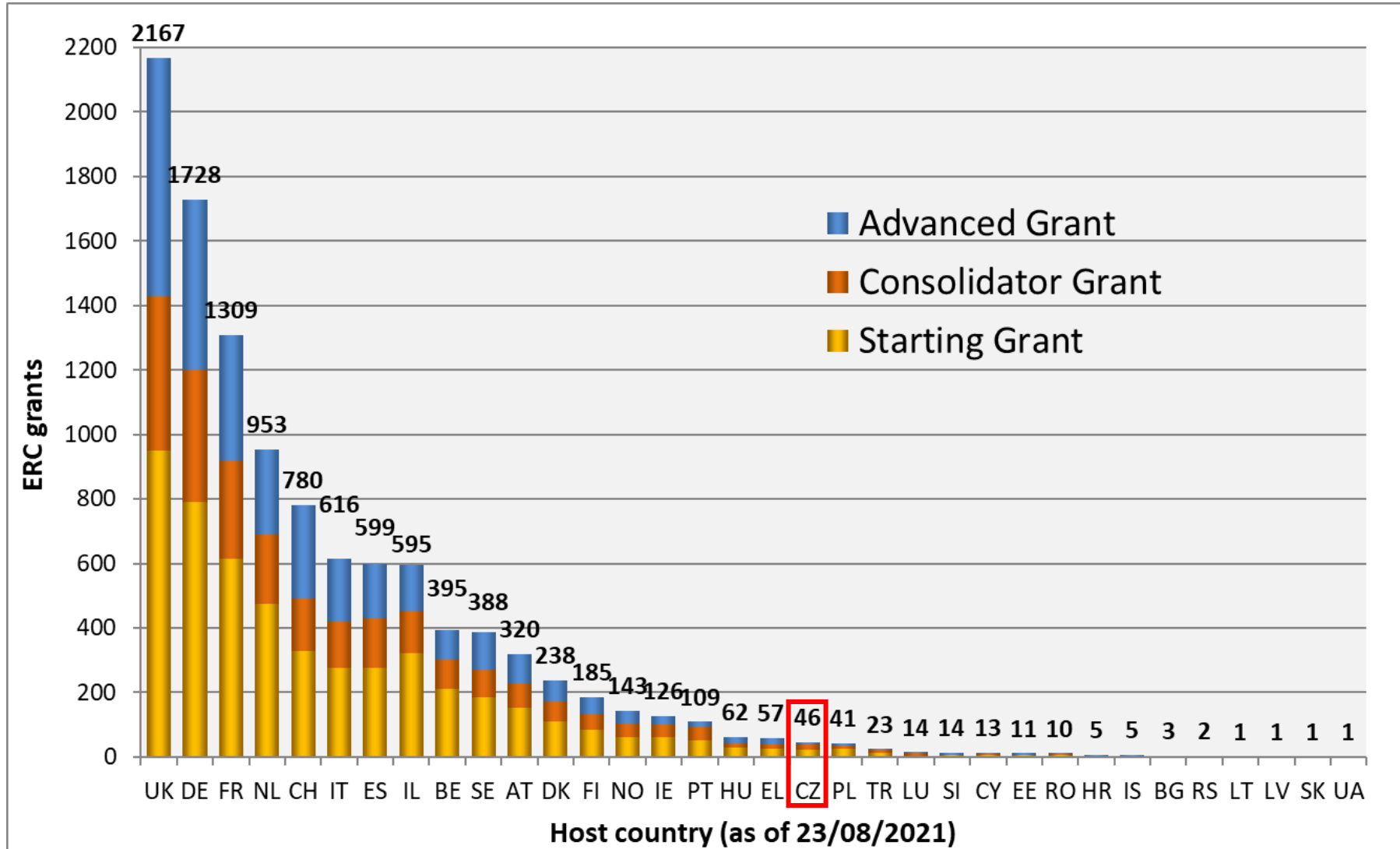
Proof-of-Concept (PoC)
to explore the commercial or
societal potential
of your ERC project
up to EUR 150,000
only for ERC grant holders

ERC Synergy Grants (SyG)
to enable 2 to 4 PIs to promote substantial
advances at the frontiers of knowledge that
would not be possible by the individual
Principal Investigators working alone
≥ 30% time commitment
up to EUR 10 + 4 million for 6 years

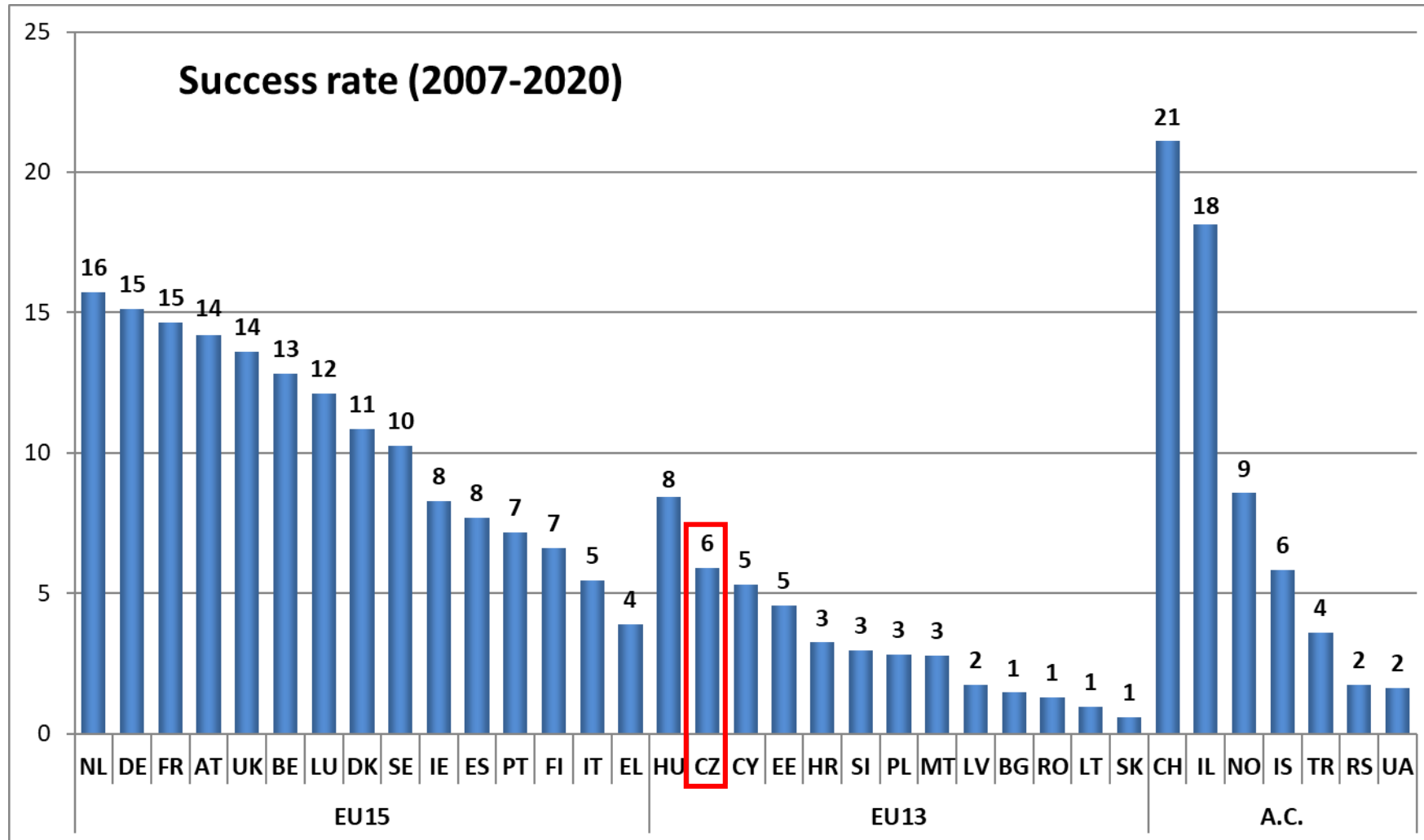
Additional funding
up to EUR 1 million for
ERC StG, CoG, AdG

Relocation expenses
Major equipment
Access to large facilities
Major experimental costs

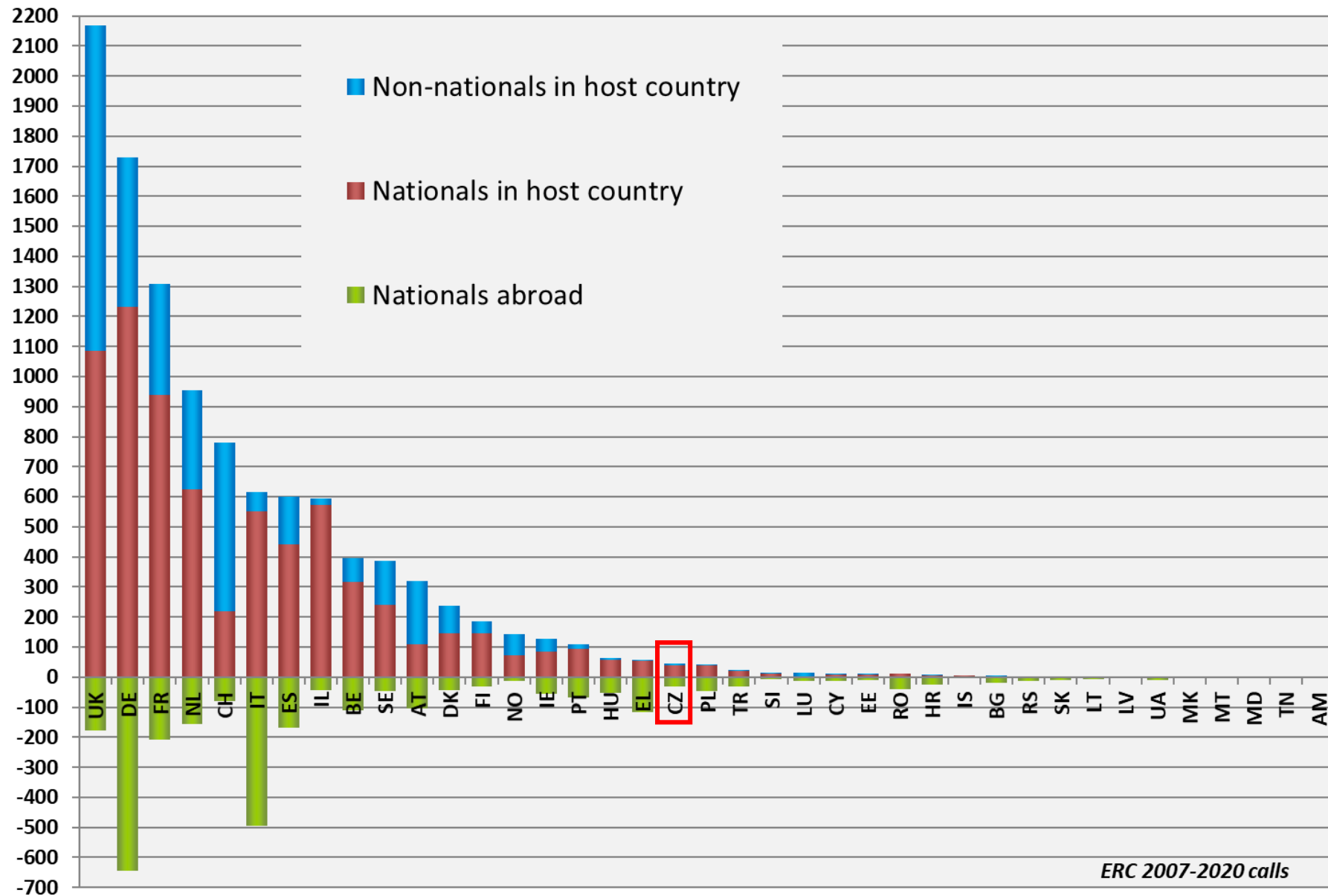
ERC FUNDED PROJECTS BY COUNTRY OF HOST INSTITUTION (HI)



SUCCESS RATE BY COUNTRY OF HI



GRANTEES AT HOME AND ABROAD



ERC 2007-2020 calls



CALLS 2022

	<i>Starting Grant</i>	<i>Consolidator Grant</i>	<i>Advanced Grant</i>	<i>Synergy Grant</i>	<i>Proof of Concept</i>	
<i>Open</i>	23/09/2021	19/10/2021	20/01/2022	15/07/2021	15/07/2021	16/11/2021
<i>Closure</i>	13/01/2022	17/03/2022	28/04/2022	10/11/2021		15/02/2022
<i>Budget million euro (estimated no. of grants)</i>	749 (502)	776 (388)	555 (223)	297 (33)	14/10/2021	19/05/2022 29/09/2022
<i>Planned date to inform applicants after each step</i>	22/07/2022 09/12/2022	02/09/2022 01/02/2023	19/12/2022 03/04/2023	12/05/2022 05/09/2022 08/11/2022	25 (167)	25 (167)
					21/01/2022	23/05/2022 29/08/2022 17/01/2023

MAIN NOVELTIES OF THE WORK PLAN 2022

- **Reintroduction of Synergy Grants** after a break in 2021 (one of the PIs may be based outside Europe)
- **Reintroduction of Proof of Concepts** after a break in 2021, **four funding rounds** under WP 2022
- **Public Engagement with Research Award:** successful pilot competition in 2020, the awards will recognise three ERC grantees, with a prize of 10,000 EUR each, in the three categories: “Involve” for citizen science, “Inspire” for public outreach, and “Influence” for media and policy. The competition is expected to open on 5 October 2021 with the deadline on 11 January 2022
- **Covid-19 impact on researchers:** possibility for applicants to mention in their research proposal (part B1) any specific situation caused by the pandemic that had a negative impact on their CV or track record. This will be taken into account during the evaluation of proposals.
- **Gender equality plans** at host institutions: the institutions to host ERC grantees must have a gender equality plan or an equivalent strategic document in place at the time of the signing of the grant and for the duration of the project (see WP 2022, Annex 5)

MAIN NOVELTIES OF THE WORK PLAN 2022

- Changes in the description of **scientific track record** based on the formal endorsement of the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\)](#) by the ERC
 - ✓ The mention of **Journal Impact Factors** is not accepted anymore among the field relevant bibliometric indicators that may be included as part of the publications track record required for applications to the main frontier research grants.
 - ✓ The track record should specify that the **list of achievements** under each Principal Investigator profile is **not exclusive**, and other types of achievements than articles can be included if relevant to the research field and project proposal.
 - ✓ Within the existing proposal template and page limits, Principal Investigators can provide a **short narrative description** of the scientific importance of the research outputs submitted as part of the proposal, and of the role that the Principal Investigator played in their production.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR 2022

Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant
> 2 and \leq 7 years prior to 1 January 2022 Cut-off dates: PhD awarded* from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2019 (inclusive)	> 7 and \leq 12 years prior to 1 January 2022 Cut-off dates: PhD awarded* from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2014 (inclusive)

Eligibility extension

- **Maternity** – 18 months per child (before or after PhD) or longer
- **Paternity** – actual time taken off (before or after PhD)
- **Military service** (after PhD award)
- **Clinical training** (after PhD award, up to 4 years maximum)
- **Long-term illness** – over 90 days for the PI or a close family member (child, spouse, parent or sibling) after PhD award

Resubmission restrictions:

- C at step 1 → ineligible for 2 years
- B at Step 1 → ineligible for 1 year

HOW TO CREATE AND SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL? FTO



Funding & tender opportunities
Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

English EN

Register

Login

- SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS
- HOW TO PARTICIPATE
- PROJECTS & RESULTS
- WORK AS AN EXPERT
- SUPPORT

ERC STARTING GRANTS

TOPIC ID: ERC-2022-STG

Grant

Search Funding and Tenders → filter by Programme → select the ERC call
Topic conditions and documents: Work Programme, Information for Applicants (guide), proposal templates, Model grant agreement (MGA)...., rules for participation, Online manual

General information

Topic description

Conditions and documents

Submission service

Topic related FAQ

Get support

Go back to search results

General information

Programme
[Horizon Europe Framework Programme \(HORIZON\)](#)

Work programme part
[HORIZON-ERC-2022](#)

Call
[Call for Proposals for ERC Starting Grant \(ERC-2022-STG\)](#)

Work programme year
HORIZON-ERC-2022

See budget overview

Type of action
HORIZON-ERC HORIZON ERC Grants

Type of MGA
HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based [HORIZON-AG]

Forthcoming

Deadline model
single-stage

Planned opening date
23 September 2021

Deadline date
13 January 2022 17:00:00 Brussels time



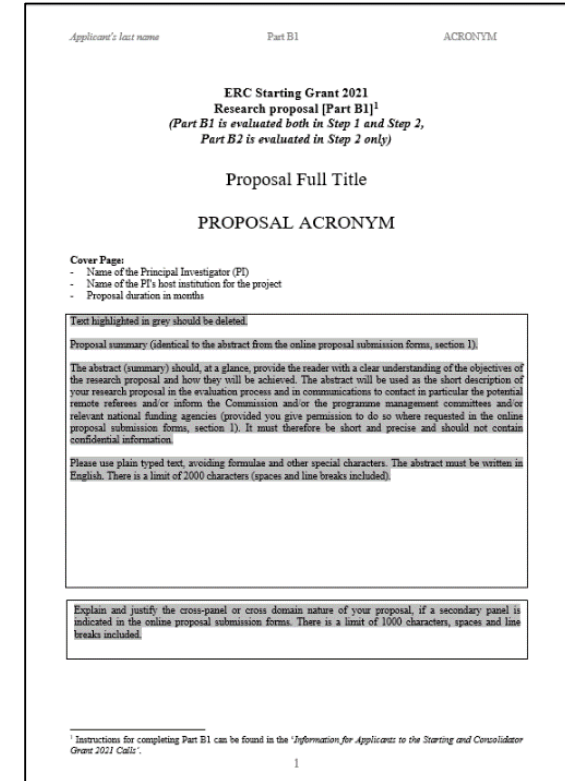
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION



[Work Programme](#)



[Information for Applicants](#)



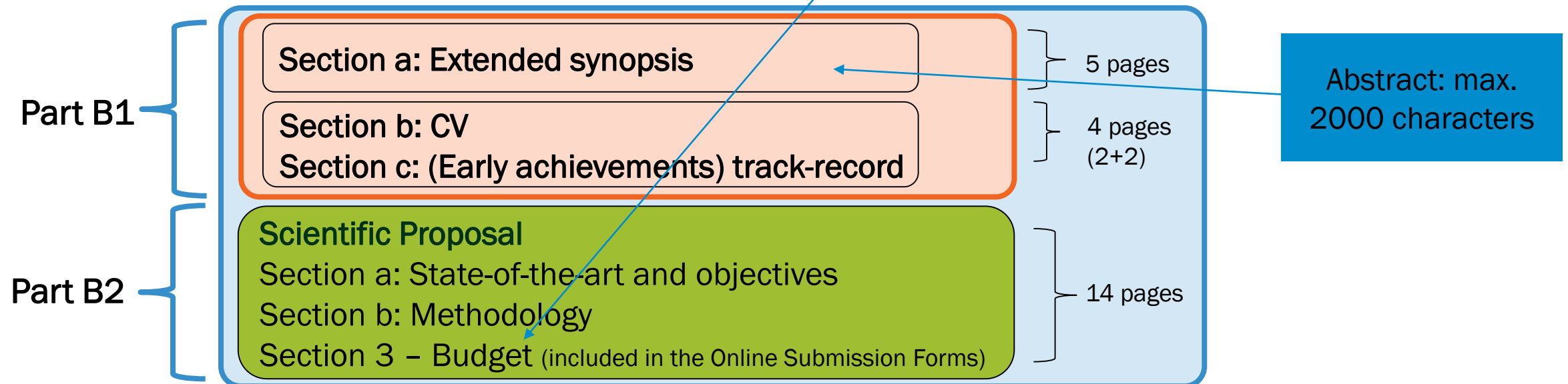
Proposal template
Part B1, Part B2
HI support letter



PROPOSAL STRUCTURE

Legal and Financial Aspects:
Contact [Legal and Financial NCPs](#)

PART A: On-line Submission Forms = administrative part through FTO including detailed budget table, description of resources (Section 3 – Budget, max. 8000 characters, incl. spaces), ethics and security issues tables, time commitment (section 5 – Other questions), etc.



- Mandatory supporting documentation (PhD certificate, HI support letter, and, if relevant, any documentation needed on eligibility)
- If applicable, additional supporting documentation related to ethics and security issues

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR STG/COG/ADG/SYG

1. Research Project

Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

Starting, Consolidator, Advanced and Synergy

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project

To what extent does the proposed research address important challenges?

To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)?

To what extent is the proposed research high risk-high gain (i.e. if successful the payoffs will be very significant, but there is a high risk that the research project does not entirely fulfil its aims)?

Scientific Approach

To what extent is the outlined scientific approach feasible bearing in mind the extent that the proposed research is high risk/high gain (based on the Extended Synopsis)?

To what extent does the proposal go beyond what the individual Principal Investigators could achieve alone (for Synergy Grants, based on the Extended Synopsis)?

To what extent do the Principal Investigators succeed in proposing a combination of scientific approaches that are crucial to address the scope and complexity of the research questions to be tackled (for Synergy Grants, based on the Extended Synopsis)?

To what extent are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project (based on the research proposal)?

To what extent does the proposal involve the development of novel methodology (based on the research proposal)?

To what extent are the proposed timescales, resources and PI commitment adequate and properly justified (based on the research proposal)?

2. Principal Investigator(s)

Intellectual capacity and creativity

Starting and Consolidator

To what extent has the PI demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research?

To what extent does the PI provide evidence of creative independent thinking?

To what extent does the PI have the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project?

Intellectual capacity and creativity

Advanced and Synergy

To what extent has/have the PI(s) demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research?

To what extent does/do the PI(s) has/have the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project?

To what extent has the PI demonstrated sound leadership in the training and advancement of young scientists (for Advanced Grant applicants)?

Synergy Grant Group

Synergy

To what extent does the Synergy Grant Group successfully demonstrate in the proposal that it brings together the know-how – such as skills, experience, expertise, disciplines, teams – necessary to address the proposed research question (based on the Extended Synopsis)?

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR POC

1. Project

Breakthrough innovation potential, approach and methodology

1.a Breakthrough innovation potential

- Does the proposed idea have the potential to drive innovation and business inventiveness and/or tackle societal challenges?
- Are the proposed expected outcomes innovative or distinctive compared to existing solutions?
- Is the proposed idea high risk-high gain (i.e. if successful, the outcome will result in breakthrough innovation, but there is a risk that some aspects might not work or some features of the problem require development of new approaches)?

1.b Approach and methodology

- Are the outlined approach and methodology feasible to explore the innovation potential of ERC-funded research?
- Are the proposed activities and planning appropriate and effective to explore the pathway from ground-breaking research towards innovation? Activities may include:
 - testing, experimenting, demonstrating and validating the idea;
 - conducting research required to carry out the above activities and to address the weaknesses uncovered by them;
 - clarifying IPR protection or knowledge transfer strategy;
 - involving industry partners, societal or cultural organisations, policymakers or any other potential stakeholder supporting the translation of research results into innovation;
 - assessing potential “end users” of the expected innovation.
- Are the proposed timescales and resources adequate and properly justified? Will the activities be conducted by persons well qualified for the purpose?

2. Principal Investigator - Capacity and commitment

Does the PI demonstrate the ability to conduct the management of the project, the consolidation of information and data needed to take strategic decisions and implement the proposed plan?

EVALUATION PANEL STRUCTURE SINCE 2021

Life Sciences

- LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures and Functions
- LS2 Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems
- LS3 Cellular, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
- LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing
- LS5 Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System
- LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy
- LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases
- LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution
- LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering

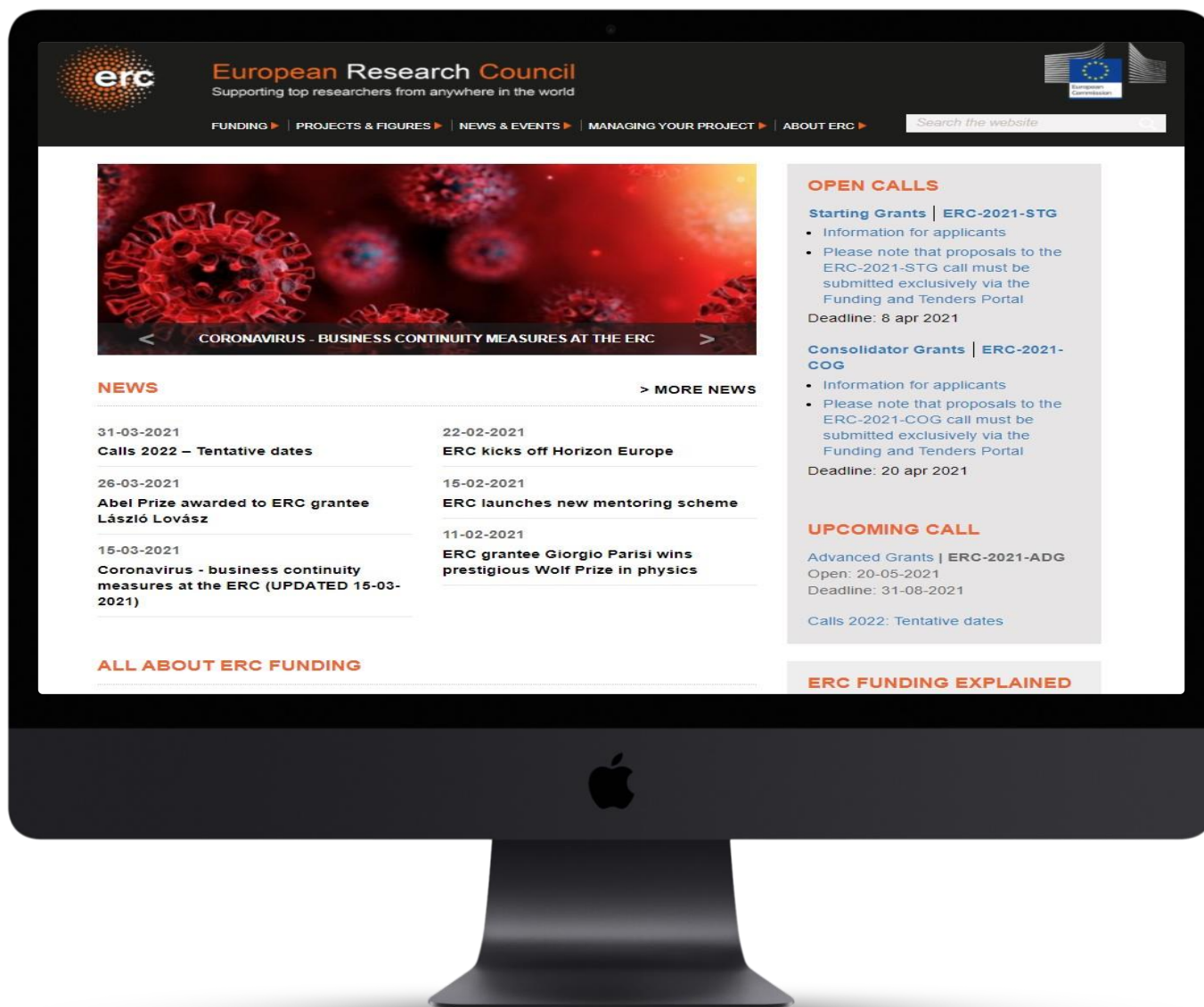
Choice of primary evaluation (and if needed secondary) panel and up to 4 keywords, see WP 2022, Annex 1

Physical Sciences and Engineering

- PE1 Mathematics
- PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter
- PE3 Condensed Matter Physics
- PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences
- PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials
- PE6 Computer Science and Informatics
- PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering
- PE8 Products and Process Engineering
- PE9 Universe Sciences
- PE10 Earth System Science
- PE11 Materials Engineering

Social Sciences and Humanities

- SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations
- SH2 Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
- SH3 The Social World and Its Diversity
- SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity
- SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production
- SH6 The Study of the Human Past
- SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space



USEFUL LINKS

- [Main webpage](#) (ERC)
- [ERC classes](#) (videos)
- [EURAXESS](#) (job offered in ERC teams)

- [On-line seminář pro instituce k podpoře žadatelů ve výzvách ERC](#) (17 June 2021, presentations)
- [ERC webinar for applicants](#) (6 September 2021, record, YT)
- [National Information Day on the ERC grants](#) (8 September)

- [ERC CZ Programme](#)
- [Visiting Research Fellowships](#)

SUPPORT TO ERC APPLICANTS BY TC CAS

horizontevropa.cz (National HE portal)

Information events:

- National Information Days on the ERC grants
- ERC Applicants' workshops ON PREPARATION OF A COMPETITIVE PROPOSAL
- Mock interviews for ERC Starting and Consolidator Grant applicants (newly for ERC Advanced)

- Ad hoc events or on demand (invited lectures)
- Brochure on ERC in preparation (Vademecum)
- Individual consultations and proposal pre-screening (non-scientific issues)
- → Collaboration with key stakeholders: ERC grantees and evaluators ...

- **National Expert Group supporting ERC applicants (EG):** coordinated by prof. Zdeněk Strakoš (CUNI)
 - [website](#), general mailbox: erc.es@tc.cz



Sources: ERC, European Commission



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION.**

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QUESTIONS?





Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Zuzana Šimek (Čapková), MSCA and ERC NCP, Technology Centre CAS
Grants Week, Masaryk University
14 October 2021

MSCA IN HORIZON EUROPE (2021-2027)



Key features of the MSCA



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs

TYPES OF ACTIONS

<u>Horizon 2020</u>	<u>Horizon Europe</u>	<u>Target group</u>
Innovative Training Networks (ITN)	Doctoral Networks (DN)	Doctoral Candidates
Individual Fellowships (IF)	Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)	Postdoctoral Researchers
Research and Innovation Staff Exchanges (RISE)	Staff Exchanges (SE)	Any type of research-related staff
Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)	COFUND (COFUND)	Doctoral Candidates, Postdoctoral Researchers
European Researchers' Night (NIGHT)	MSCA and Citizens (CITIZENS)	Public

MSCA CALLS 2021-2022

Call	Action	Opening	Deadline
MSCA-PF-2021 MSCA-PF-2022	Postdoctoral Fellowships	22/06/2021 13/04/2022	12/10/2021 14/09/2022
MSCA-DN-2021 MSCA-DN-2022	Doctoral Networks	22/06/2021 03/05/2022	16/11/2021 15/11/2022
MSCA-CITIZENS-2022	MSCA and Citizens	22/06/2021	7/10/2021
MSCA-SE-2021 MSCA-SE-2022	Staff Exchanges	07/10/2021 6/10/2022	9/03/2022 8/03/2023
MSCA-COFUND-2021 MSCA-COFUND-2021	COFUND	12/10/2021 11/10/2022	10/02/2022 9/02/2023

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

- **Individual research project:** training-through-research under the direct supervision
- All scientific fields (bottom-up), incl. Euratom areas (indicative amount EUR 1 million annually)
- **Two types of fellowships:**
 - **European Postdoctoral Fellowships:** coming to Europe (EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries) from any country in the world or moving within Europe, 12-24 months
 - **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships:** 24-36 months, 12-24 outgoing phase (outside EU MS/AC) + 12 months mandatory return phase in Europe
- Emphasis on **intersectoral or interdisciplinary projects**
- **Two way transfer of knowledge** between researcher and host
- **Hands on training:** scientific skills (new techniques, instruments, etc.) and transferable skills (proposal preparation, patent applications, management of IPR, gender issues, Open Science, etc.)
- **Dissemination and Communication activities**
- **Secondments** *worldwide* up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration (or outgoing phase of GF), **Optional additional placement** of up to 6 months in a non-academia

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Eligible researchers

- Any nationality (Global Fellowships: nationals or long-term residents of MS or HE/Euratom AC)
- In possession of PhD at the call deadline
- Up to 8 years research experience after PhD (with exceptions: career breaks, work outside research, research outside Europe for reintegrating researchers,...)
- Mobility rule: not resided / had main activity in the country of the beneficiary (or host organization for GF) more than 12 months in the 36 months before call deadline

- Opportunity for senior researchers to become supervisors

- **Alternative funding for high quality proposals:**
 - **ERA Fellowships** in case of host institutions in Widening Countries (EUR 10 million in 2021, at least 70 % threshold, open only for EF, integral part of the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call application form)
 - **International Mobility of Researchers „MSCA PF CZ“** (under Operational Programme John Amos Comenius, at least 70 % threshold)

- Resubmission restriction to be applied since 2022, less than 70% → ineligible for next call

- MSCA-PF-2021 Call: 8 356 applications from 46 countries (CZ: 151 EF and 13 GF)

How to apply?



SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▾

HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▾

PROJECTS & RESULTS

WORK AS AN EXPERT

SUPPORT ▾



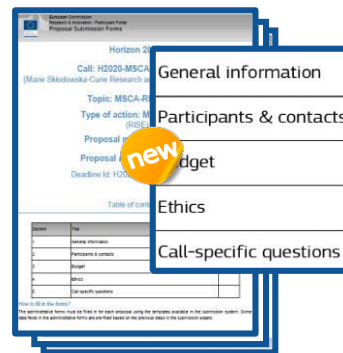
Proposal Submission System will be unavailable on **Monday 22th from 17:30 to 20:00 (CET)**, while system maintenance is being performed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Find calls for proposals and tenders

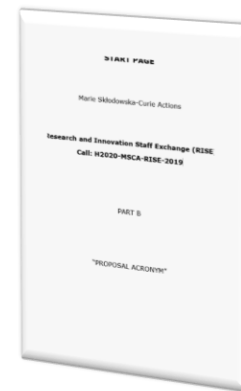
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

 Search

Part A
(administrative data)



Part B
(description of research)



B1: 10 page limit, **B2** (CV etc.)
Read all guidance documents

MSCA DOCTORAL NETWORKS

At institutional level:

- Consortium including at least three independent legal entities, each established in a different MS/AC and with at least one of them established in a MS prepares a training programme for PhD students
- Types of programmes:
 - **Doctoral Networks**
 - **Industrial Doctorates**
 - **Joint Doctorates**

At individual level:

- DN are open to Doctoral Candidates = not have been awarded a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment
- PhD students have to be enrolled in a doctoral programme
- Doctoral Candidates can participate in DN by carrying out their research projects or they can spend certain part of their studies in non-academic institutions (Industrial Doctorates) or can study at more than one institution at one time and be awarded joint/double or multiple doctoral degrees (Joint Doctorates)

MSCA STAFF EXCHANGES

At institutional level:

- Consortium of at least three independent legal entities in three different countries, two of which in a MS/AC, prepares a collaborative research and innovation projects of max. 48 months

At individual level:

- Open to any type of staff at the participating institution (consortium member): Doctoral Candidates, Postdoctoral Researchers, administrative, managerial and technical staff, they carry out their secondments of 1-12 months (possible splits) at other involved institutions
- **Three dimensions of mobility = inter-sectoral, international and interdisciplinary:**
 - inter-sectoral exchanges between MS/AC (between academia and non-academia, e.g. MU and a company)
 - same-sector exchanges between MS/AC only if interdisciplinary and max. 1/3 of total person-months (e.g. collaboration of MU and a university in two or more scientific disciplines)
 - inter-sectoral exchanges not required with third countries (e.g. MU and a U.S. research institute)

MSCA COFUND

European Commission supports financially national, regional, international schemes for doctoral training and postdoctoral fellowships

- **Doctoral Programmes**
- **Postdoctoral Programmes**

At institutional level:

- These programmes can be managed by a government ministry, regional authority, funding agency, university, research organisation, enterprise etc.
- EU contribution is limited to EUR 10 million per beneficiary per call
- Duration of projects: max. 5 years

At individual level:

- Doctoral Candidates/Postdoctoral Researchers of any nationality can submit their application if they fulfill selection criteria
- Fellowships: min. 3 months
- EURAXESS portal: [COFUND Programmes](#)

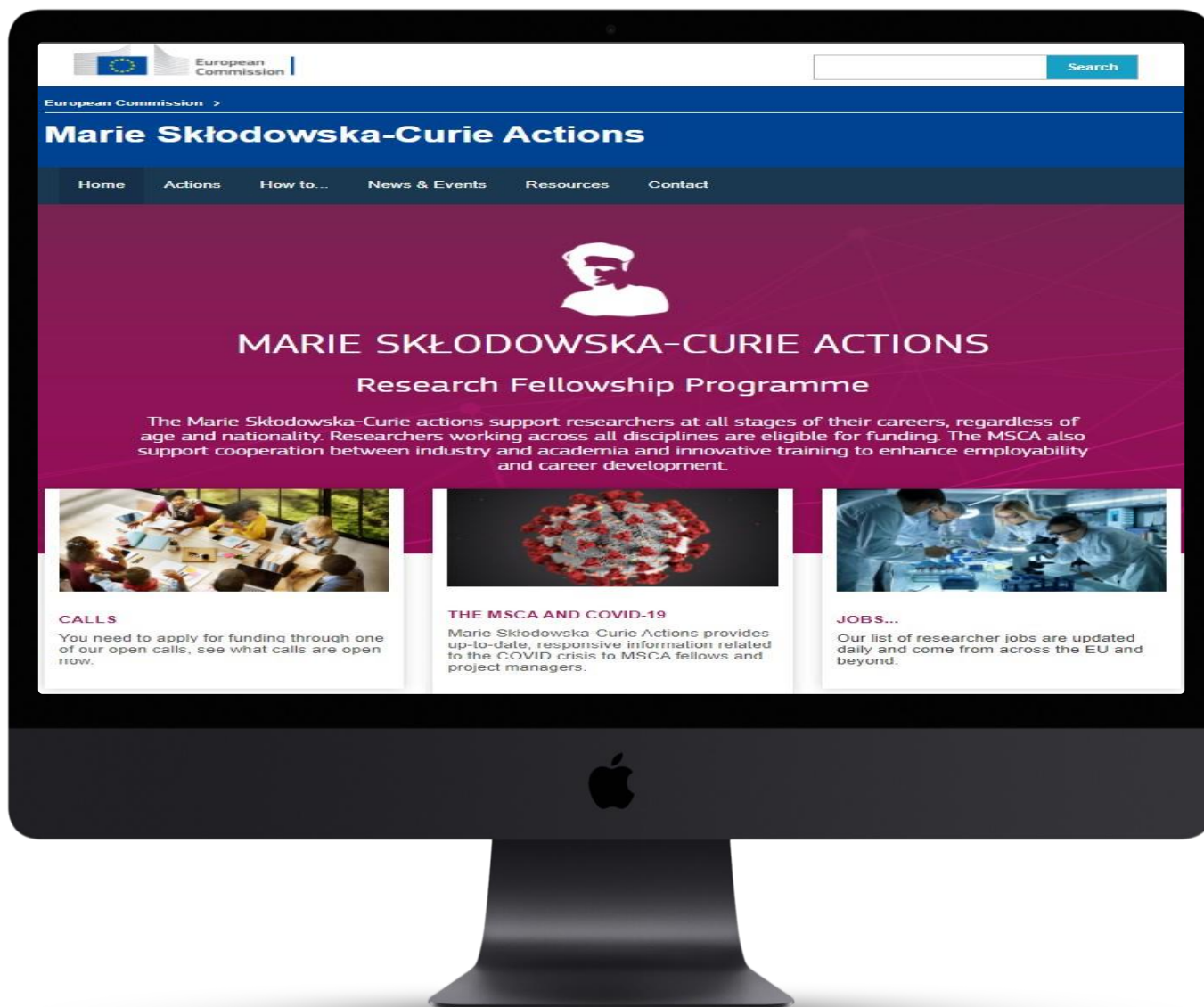
MSCA Grants

Type of action	Contributions for the recruited researcher per person-month					Institutional unit contributions per person-month	
	Living allowance *	Mobility allowance	Family allowance	Long-term leave allowance	Special needs allowance **	Research, training and networking contributions	Management and indirect contributions
Doctoral Networks	EUR 3 400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4 000 x % covered by the beneficiary	requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1 200
Postdoctoral Fellowships	EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary		EUR 1 000	EUR 650
Staff Exchanges	Top-up allowance EUR 2 300					EUR 1 300	EUR 1 000
MSCA COFUND	Contributions for recruited researchers and institutional contributions per person-month						
	COFUND allowance			Long-term leave allowance		Special needs allowance	
	Doctoral programmes	EUR 2 800	EUR 2 800 x % covered by the beneficiary		requested unit		
Postdoctoral programmes	EUR 3 980	EUR 3 980 x % covered by the beneficiary		x (1/number of months)			

* CCC: country correction coefficient applies (CZ: 79,1).

** The pre-defined categories: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.





Useful links

- [Main webpage](#)
- [Net4Mobility+](#) (MSCA NCP project)
- [EURAXESS](#) (job offers and research stay opportunities)
- [CORDIS database](#) (funded projects)
- [Guidelines on Supervision](#)
- [MSCA Green Charter](#)

SUPPORT TO MSCA APPLICANTS BY TC CAS

horizontevropa.cz (National HE portal)

Information events:

- National Information Days
 - Information Days on specific action
 - Applicants´ workshops: intensive training in proposal writing
 - Events on demand, specific trainings
-
- Brochure on MSCA to be updated (Vademecum)
 - Individual consulting and proposal pre-screening (non-scientific issues), e-mails, phone calls, personal/virtual meetings
- **Collaboration with key stakeholders:** Marie Curie fellows and evaluators ...



Sources: European Commission, REA



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION.**

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MSCA and ERC NCP

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QUESTIONS?

