

Horizon Europe - EU Funding Opportunities for Postdocs

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships & European Research Council Starting Grants

3rd Cancer Careers Day, MSNZ/UCCH & UCCSH, 28 October 2022

Dunja Hofmann, KoWi

KoWi – EU Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations



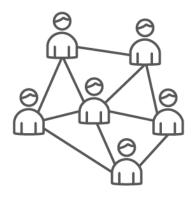
information, advice & training on EU research & innovation funding

"One-Stop-Shop" for Horizon Europe



service platform for our supporting association* focussing on universities

Financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG)



Connected on European level

Offices in Bonn & Brussels



Horizon Europe – Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027)

Horizon Europe (2021-2027) - 95,52 Mrd. Pillar III Pillar I Pillar II Global Challenges & Industrial Competitiveness - 53.52 Mrd Innovative Europe — • 13.60 Mrd. European Research - 16.00 Mrd Thematic clusters **European Innovation** • 10.11 Mrd. Council (ERC) Council (EIC) 1. Health — 8,25 Mrd. 2. Culture, Creativity and inclusive Society ____ 2.28 Mrd. Marie Skłodowska-Curie - 6,60 Mrd. **European Innovation** 0,53 Mrd. Actions (MSCA) **Ecosystems (EIE)** 3. Civil Security for Society — 1,60 Mrd. 4. Digital, Industry and Space - 15.35 Mrd. **European Institute of** Research 2.97 Mrd. Innovation and Infrastructures — • 2,41 Mrd. 5. Climate, Energy and Mobility — 15.12 Mrd. Technology (EIT) 6. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment — 8,95 Mrd. Non-nuclear direct actions of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) _____ 1.97 Mrd. Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area - 3,39 Mrd. **Widening Participation Reforming and Enhancing** the European R&I System — 0,44 Mrd. and Spreading Excellence - 2,96 Mrd.



Horizon Europe – Country categories and participation

- Funding from Horizon Europe
 - EU Member States (MS): including their overseas departments
 - Associated Countries (AC): Albania, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Moldova, Marocco, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Norway,
 North-Macedonia, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Ukraine, Tunisia, Faroe Islands
 - Third Countries (TC): selected countries from Asia, Africa and South America
 - Other Third countries (TC) with high research potential and market economic/democratic orientation
 - Exploratory talks with: Republic of Korea, Canada and New Zealand
- Participation without funding from Horizon Europe: further Third Countries (TC) e.g. Japan, USA, China, Brasil, etc.
- Special arrangement with Switzerland:
 - Switzerland counts as a third country, as exploratory talks on association are suspended
 - Swiss institutions cannot be selected as host institutions
- Special arrangement with the United Kingdom:
 - Association through the Protocol to the Trade and Cooperation Agreement btw. UK and EU (not ratified yet)
 - Currently transition funding by UK government for UK participation in projects Information on <u>UKRO website</u>
- Special arrangement Ukraine:
 - Ukraine is AC, but without financial contribution to be made (at least in 2021 and 2022)







MSCA



European Research Council (ERC)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Research Infrastructures

- Doctoral NetworksPostdoctoral
 - Staff Exchanges

Fellowships

- Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)
- MSCA and Citizens



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships – Aims

- Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)
 - Encouraging people to embark on research careers in Europe
 - Foster excellence through implementation of research project
- Enhancing mobility and collaboration
 - International
 - Interdisciplinary
 - Inter-sectoral
- Promoting the researchers' career development
 - Providing training for key competences in science and industry (training on research & transferable skills) -> employability
 - Creating fair and attractive working conditions



Classification by Research Experience

MSCA Classification	Status
Doctoral Candidates	Must not have been awarded a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment
Postdoctoral Researchers	The researcher must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have successfully defended their doctoral thesis before call deadline. *



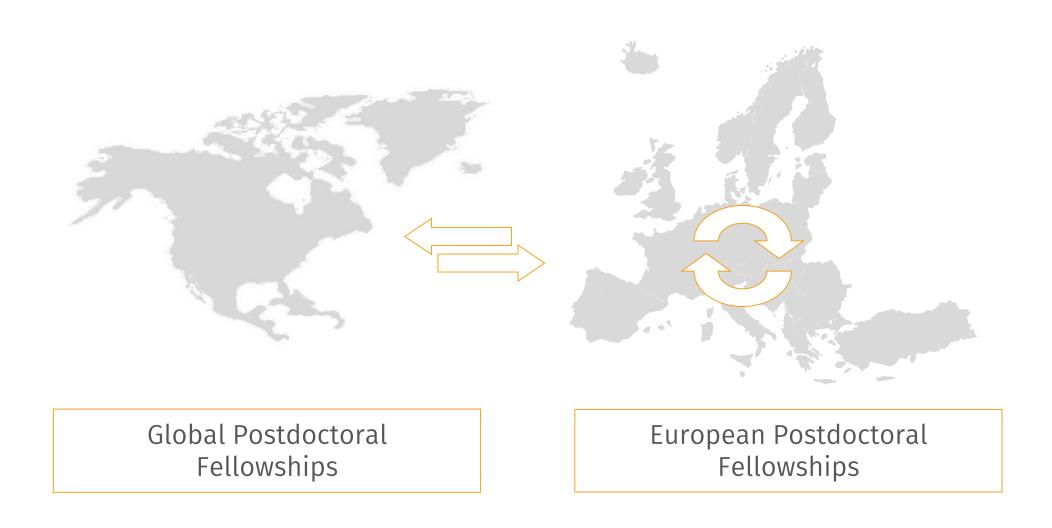
^{*} The successful defence must be unconditional (no further requirements/corrections that need to be addressed) and take place before the call deadline.

Definition of Sectors

Academic Sector	Non-academic sector		
Public or private higher education establishments	Any socio-economic actor not included in academic sector		
Public or private non-profit research organisations			
International European Interest Organisations (IERO)			



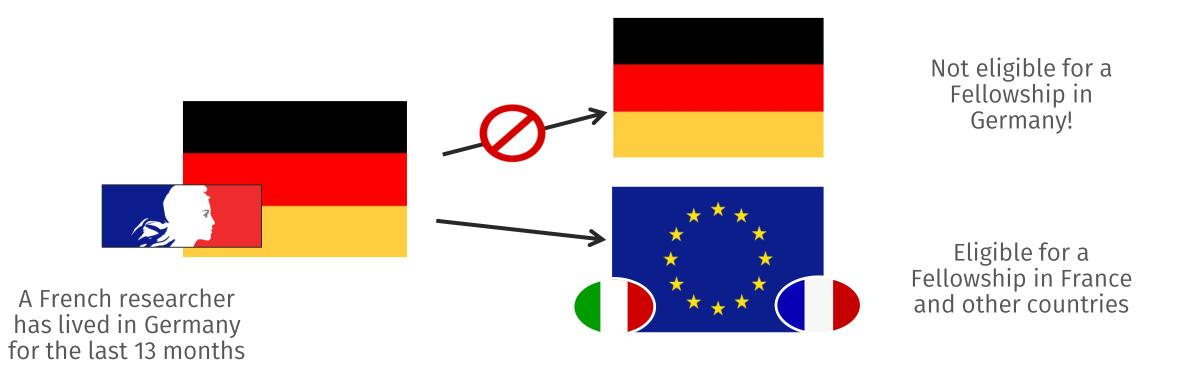
Postdoctoral Fellowships – Global and European Postdoctoral Fellowships





MSCA - Mobility Rule

Fellow has lived or worked ≤ 12 months within the last 3 years in the potential host country





European Postdoctoral Fellowships - Research Project in Europe (MS / AC)

Eligibility

- Postdoctoral researchers with up to 8 years* of research experience after PhD (full-time) of any nationality
- Mobility rule: may not have lived / worked more than 12 months within the last 3 years in host country

Funding

- Implementation of an independent research project at any public or private research institution in Europe (MS or AC)
- 1-2 years project
- Worldwide secondments for up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration
- Optional: additional placement of up to 6 months in non-academic sector in Europe

Application

Fellow writes individual application jointly with Host Institution
 → proposal (10 pages) is submitted jointly with supervisor in the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home



*Departing from periods outside research and career breaks as well as periods in a TC (only applies to citizens of an EU MS or AC, or "long-term residents"). A medical doctor degree will be accepted only when it corresponds to a doctoral degree or if the researcher can demonstrate his/her appointment in a position that requires doctoral equivalency (e.g. professorship appointment).

Global Postdoctoral Fellowship – Research Project in Third Country (TC) and Europe

Eligibility

- Postdoctoral researchers with up to 8 years* of research experience after PhD (full-time)
- Nationality of a MS / AC or at least 5 years of residence in MS /AC ("long-term residents")
- Mobility rule: may not have lived / worked more than 12 months within the last 3 years in host country (refers to outgoing phase)

Funding

- Implementation of an independent research project at any public or private research institution
- 1-2 years in non-associated TC (outgoing phase) + 1 year mandatory return phase in MS /AC
- Worldwide secondment for max. 1/3 of the of the fellowship duration (outgoing phase)
- Optional: additional placement of up to 6 months in non-academic sector in Europe

Application

Fellow writes individual application jointly with Host Institution
 → proposal (10 pages) is submitted jointly with supervisor in Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home



Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) – Who can be your Host Institution?

- Any public or private institution conducting research in or outside Europe
 - Universities
 - Higher Education Institutions
 - Research centres or institutes
 - Industry companies (e.g. SME)
 - Non-profit organisations
 - Governmental organisations
 - International European Interest Organisations (e.g. CERN, EMBL)



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - financing

In EUR; Funding 100%, in gross	Research unit cost (Contributions for the recruited researcher) (person/month)				Insitutional unit cost (person/month)		
	Living allowance*	Mobility allowance	Family allowance**	Long-term leave allowance	Special- needs allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management & Overhead
Postdoctoral Fellowships	5.080	600	660	5.680***	Depending on request	1.000	650

*The <u>living allowance is a gross amount</u>, including compulsory deductions under national law, such as employer and employee social security contributions and direct taxes. ** If applicable, can also be applied for after project start *** If applicable (4.000 / 5.680 x % covered by the beneficiary) 15

Application of the country correction coefficient: for Germany 98.3%.



Excellence

(weighting: 50%)

Impact

(weighting: 30%)

Implementation

(weighting: 20%)

Evaluation Criteria and Panels

- 8 Main Evaluation Panels
 - Chemistry (CHE)
 - Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
 - Economic Sciences (ECO)
 - Information Sciences and Engineering (ENG)
 - Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
 - Life Sciences (LIF)
 - Mathematics (MAT)
 - Physics (PHY)



MSCA call for proposal 2023 – tentative dates

	Opening	Deadline*	Budget
Postdoctoral Fellowships	12 April 2023	13 September 2023	260.47 million
(HORIZON-MSCA-2023- PF-01)			



MSCA Preparation of the proposal



MSCA Work Programme 2023-2024 (not published yet)



Guide for Applicants (not published yet)

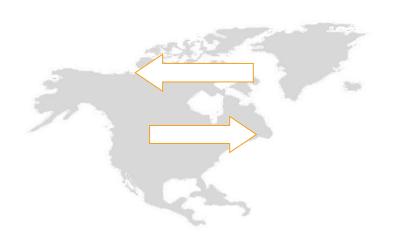


PF Template 2023 (not published yet)



MSCA-PF Success rate 2021



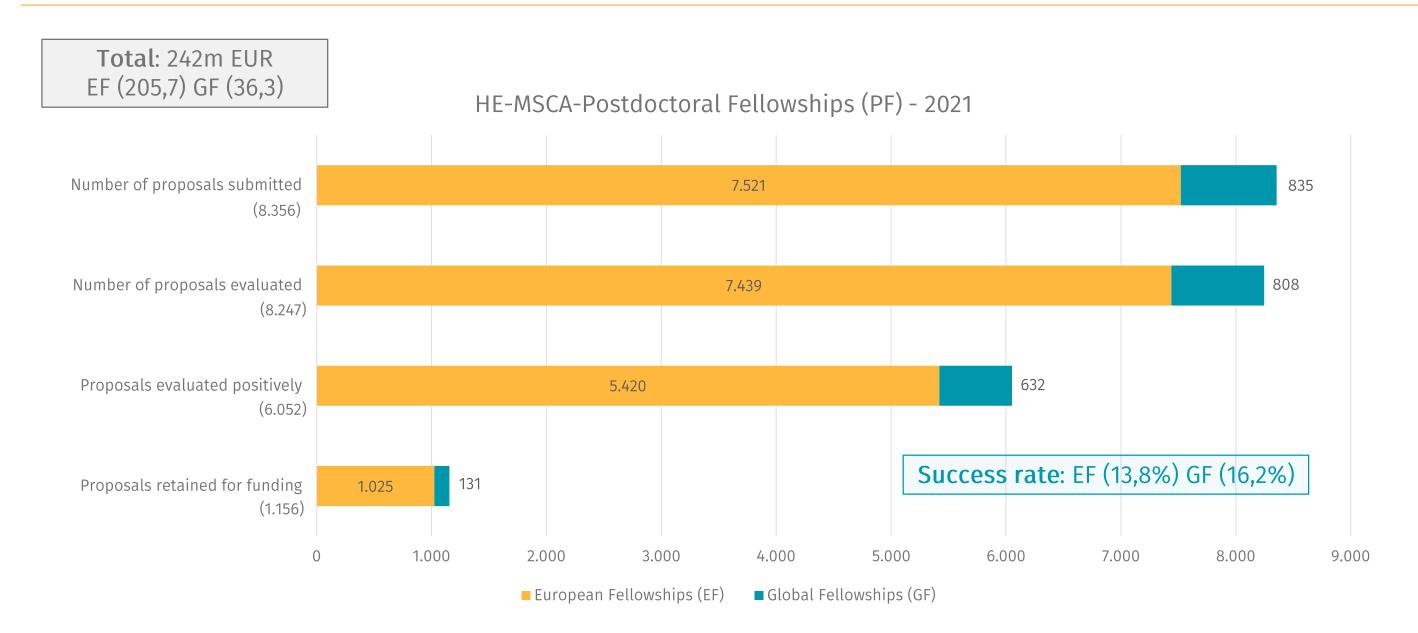


	Submitted proposals (overall 8247)	Proposals retained for funding	success rate
PF-EF	7439	1025	13.8%
PF-GF	808	131	16.2%

Source: European Commission



HE-MSCA-Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) - 2021





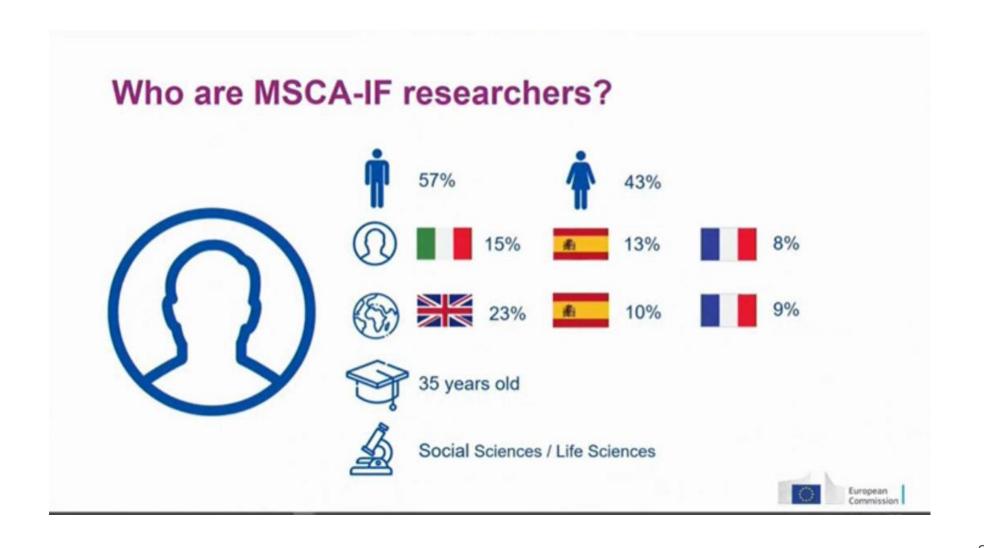
MSCA Individual Fellowships 2020 (Horizon 2020)







Who are MSCA-IF researchers? (Horizon 2020)



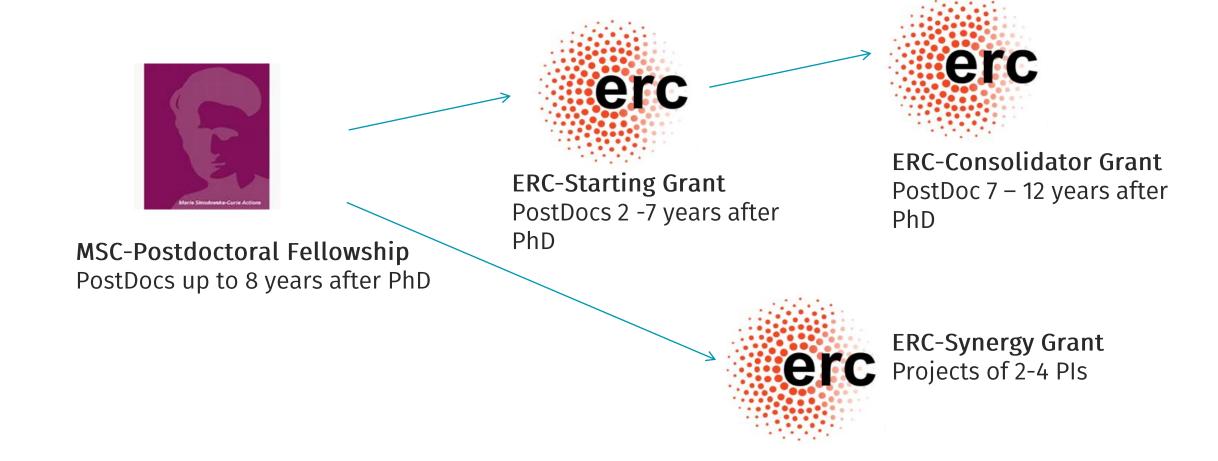








Pathways of Funding





ERC Underlying Principles

- Development of funding schemes is science-driven (Scientific Council)
- European funding of basic research ("frontier research")
- Open to all fields of research
 - Ground-breaking research
 - Beyond the state-of-the-art
 - Novel concepts (across disciplines)
 - High risk / high gain
 - Important challenges
 - Feasibility
- Funding of individuals: Principal Investigator (PI) + project (all direct project costs + 25 % overhead)
- Open for researchers of any age and nationality
 - > Scientific excellence is the sole criterion for evaluation!



ERC Funding Modalities

- Funding of individuals: Principal Investigator (PI) + project
- Support for researchers to start or consolidate their own independent research team in Europe (MS or AC)
- Funding: 100 % + 25 %
 - All direct project costs: salary of PI and project team (partly/full), travel expenses, consumables, publication costs (incl. Open Access), research-related costs, equipment costs (within the limits of depreciation rules), subcontracts
 - Additional financing of indirect costs: 25 % overhead



ERC Funding Schemes



European Research Council (ERC)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Research Infrastructures

- Starting Grants2-7 years after PhD
- Consolidator Grants7-12 years after PhD
- Advanced Grants
 10 years track record
- Synergy Grants
 Teams of 2-4 PIs pursuing highly ambitious research goals
- Proof of Concept
 Preparing ideas from ERC
 Grant for the market



Extensions of the eligibility period

- Calculation of the eligibility time window:
 - Time elapsed between date of defence and 1 January of the call year
- Maternity before/after the date of the successful defence of PhD degree: 18 months extension for each child
- Extension by the documented time:
 - Maternity before/after PhD defence leave longer than 18 months
 - Paternity before/after PhD defence
 - Military/civil/national service after PhD defence (documented amount of leave for each incident)
 - Long-term illness of the PI or a close family member (>90 days) after PhD
 - Clinical training after the award of the first eligible degree (up to a maximum of 4 years)
 - Seeking asylum after PhD defence
 - Being a victim of a natural disaster (Large-scale geological or meteorological events) after PhD defence



ERC Starting Grants – Overview

- Target group
 - 2 7 years after successful PhD defence (extensions possible in exceptional cases like maternity/paternity leave; special rules for MD)
- Funding
 - Max. EUR 1.5 million for max. 5 years
 (optional: + EUR 1 million e.g. for major equipment or access to large facilities, major experimental and field work costs or for PIs from Third Countries)
- Host institution
 - In EU Member State or Associated Country (MS/AC)
- Time commitment.
 - ≥ 50% (≥ 50% in Europe)
- Procedure
 - Single submission of full proposal, two-step evaluation (incl. Interview)
- Call
 - annually



Eligibility of Medical Doctors (MD)

- Principal Investigators who are MDs have to have:
 - Additional PhD
 - OR
 - Appointment that requires doctoral equivalency (postdoc fellowship, professorship, ...)
- Eligibility time-window:
 - 4 9 years past MD / " 3. Staatsexamen" for Starting Grants
 - 9 14 years past MD / "3. Staatsexamen" for Consolidator Grants
- N.B.: German "Dr med" is not considered as reference date



ERC panel structure

Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE)

- 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 Processes Engineering
- PE9: Universe Sciences
- PE10: Earth System Science
- PE11: Materials Engineering
 Pengineering
 Pen

Life Sciences (LS)

- 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: Neurosciences 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

Social Sciences & Humanities (SH)

- SH1: Individuals, Markets and Organisations
- SH2: Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
- SH3: The Social World and its Diversity
- SH4: Human Mind and its Complexity

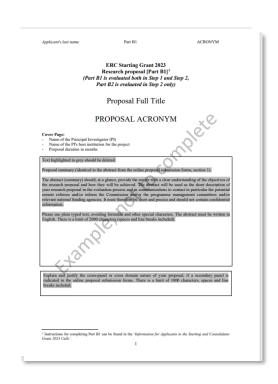
- SH5: Cultures and Cultural Production
- SH6: The Study of the Human Past
- SH7: Human Mobility, Environment and Space











Important Documents

- ERC Work Programme
- ERC Rules for Submission and Evaluation
- Information for Applicants
- Research Proposal Template



https://ec.europa.eu/info/fundingtenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

ERC Calls for Proposals – Work Programme 2024 – tentative dates

	Reference date	Call opening	Deadline (5 pm Brussels time)	Budget (EUR)
Starting Grants	01 January 2024	July 2023	October 2023	628 million

- Proposal Submission:
 - PI together with a Host Institution (Host Support Letter)
 - Online: Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal of the European Commission:
 https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home



ERC Success Rates 2017-2021

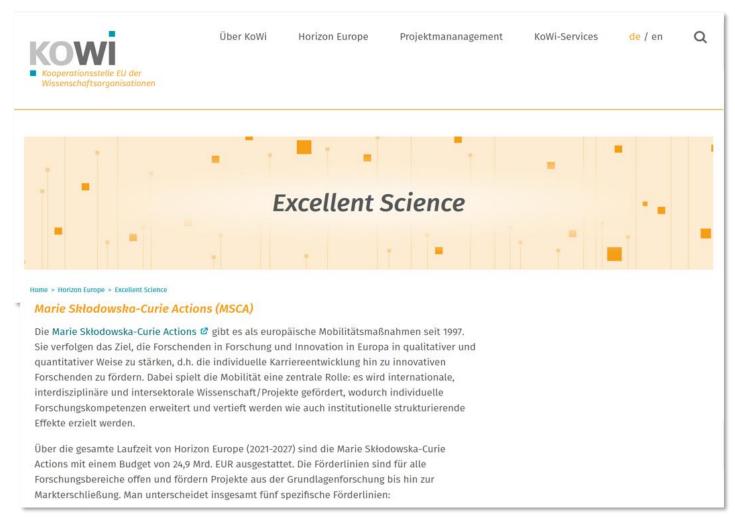
Funding line	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Starting Grants	13.3 %	12.7 %	13.3 %	13.3%	11.7 %
Consolidator Grants	13.2 %	12.2 %	12.3 %	13.2 %	12 %
Advanced Grants	12 %	10.8 %	9.8 %	8 %	14.6 %



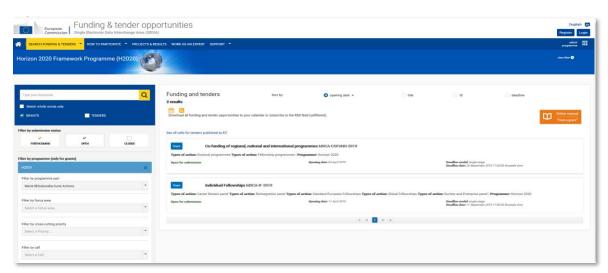




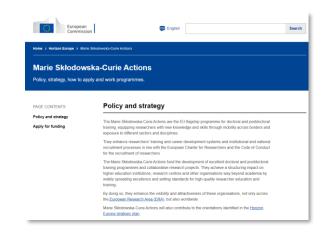
MSCA Information online



KoWi Website



Funding & Tenders Portal





European Commission

NCP MSCA



MSCA Online

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research

Home About MSCA ▼ Actions ▼ Funding Jobs Resources ▼ What's new ▼

You are here: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions / Actions

About actions

Doctoral Networks

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Staff Exchanges

COFUND

MSCA & Citizens

How to apply

Jobs funded from our actions

About Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Use this guide to learn about the different types of MSCA funding supports and to learn which one is most suitable for you. You can learn about how to apply and individuals can learn how to search for a job advertised by an MSCA funded project.

The information provided in this guide is a summary of the main rules and requirements.

Please note that the information in this guide is preliminary and subject to the final adoption and publication of the Horizon Europe Work Programme by the legislative authority.

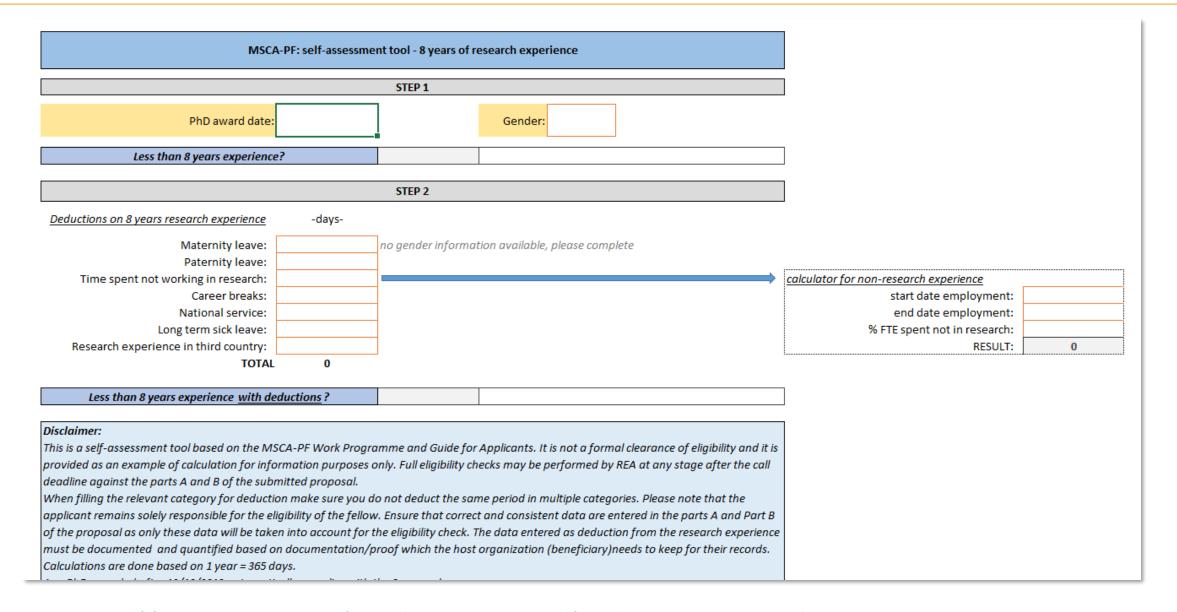
Related links will be added below as soon as available. Please refer to the Funding & Tenders Portal of the latest information on calls.

Types of MSCA funding

There are 5 types of MSCA targeting different objectives:



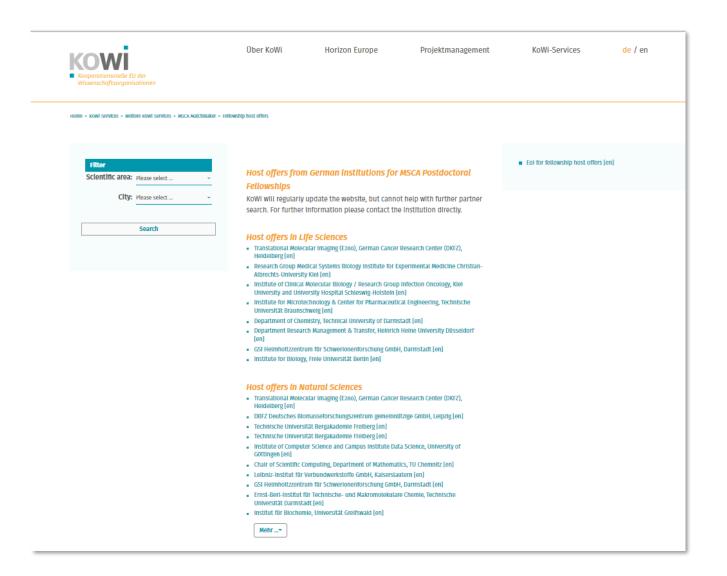
MSCA PF self-assessment tool





https://rea.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/horizon-europe-marie-sklodowska-curie-actions/horizon-europe-msca-how-apply_en#ecl-inpage-293

KoWi-Service: MSCA Matchmaker for Postdocs



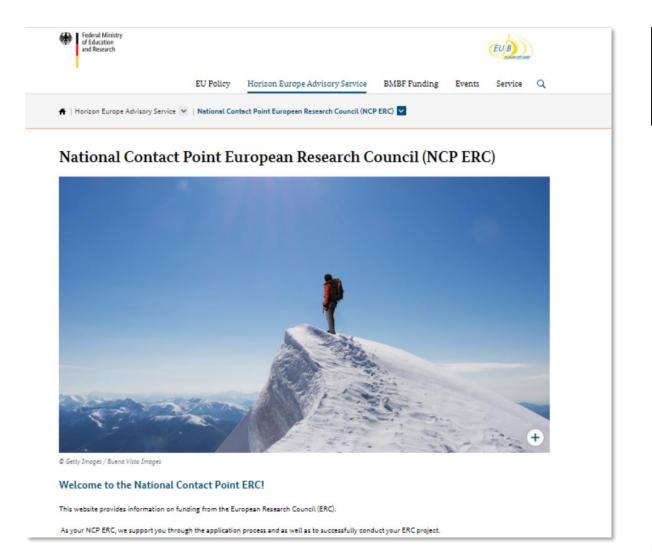
Virtual "bulletin board"

- find a host institution in Germany
- You can filter
 - by scientific area
 - by city
- Regularly updated

www.kowi.de/msca-host-offers



ERC Information online



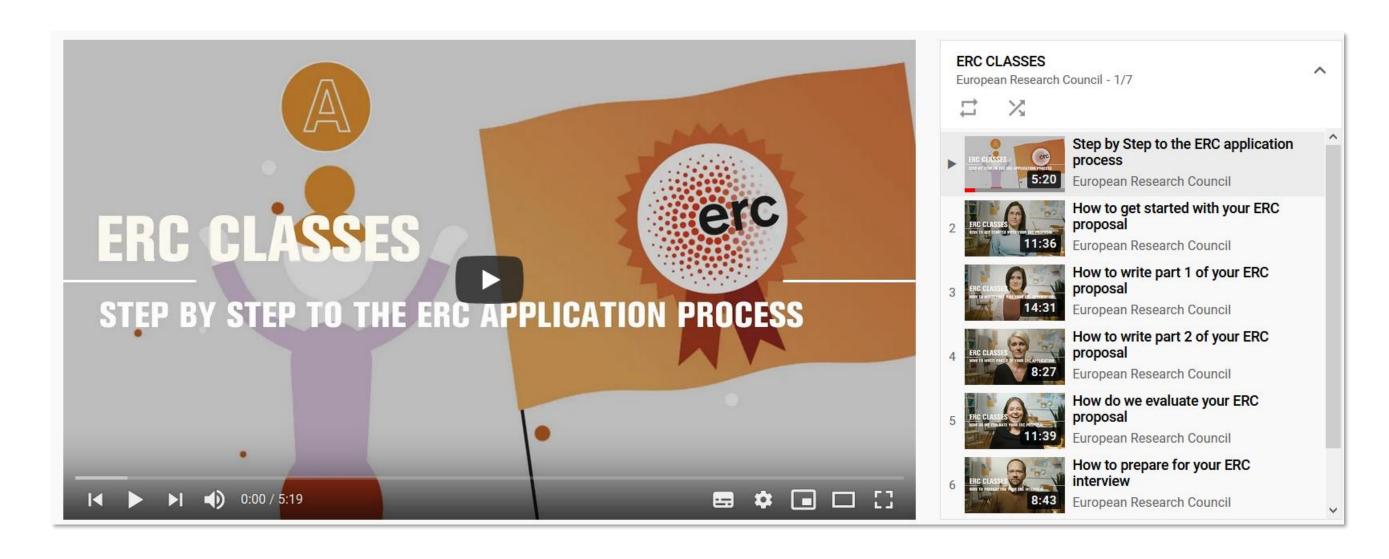


NCP ERC

European Research Council



ERC Classes – Step by Step ERC Application





See: https://youtu.be/xbFbzkVWgCU

KoWi-Services on the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Information

- Information events and workshops
- KoWi-Newsletter, Factsheets, MSCA Matchmaker, etc.
- Twitter: <u>@KoWi_EU</u>

Advice

- Individual consulting and support for applicants
- Tailored advice for small groups
- Advice on legal and financial project management

Training

- Workshops on application and grant management
- Workshops on legal and financial project management



KoWi-Services on the European Research Council (ERC)

(KoWi is part of the National Contact Point ERC in Germany – cooperation with the EU-Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (EU-Büro des BMBF))



Information

- Information events and workshops
- NCP ERC website, incl. ERC-FAQs): nks-erc.de
- Newsletter: <u>eubuero.de/newsletter</u>

Advice

- Individual consulting and support for applicants
- Tailored advice for small groups
- Advice on legal and financial project management

Training

- Interview trainings for StG, CoG, AdG and SyG
- Workshops on application and grant management



Contact

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On the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

