European Funding Opportunities for Students, Postdocs & Researchers of All Nationalities
EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion initiative

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

European Research Council Grants (ERC)
What can EURAXESS do for you?
What is EURAXESS?

EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion
Project since 2004

Goals:
- Support research careers
- Help researchers move to Europe

Offer information and services

40 European countries + 6 non-European + European Commission
EURAXESS - Researchers in Motion is a unique pan-European initiative providing access to a complete range of information and support services to researchers wishing to pursue their research careers in Europe or stay connected to it.

www.euraxess.org
How can EURAXESS help?

**JOBS**: helps you find jobs and funding opportunities

**SERVICES**: more than 500 people in 40 countries to assist you

**RIGHTS**: looks after your rights as a researcher

**LINKS**: connecting researchers of all nationalities abroad
EURAXESS Links North America

- **We work with:** researchers, European Scientific Diasporas, EU Delegations, EU embassies and consulates, MSCA, ERC, bilateral projects, North American universities and research institutions

- **We offer:** flash notes, quarterly newsletter, networking platforms, up-to-date information on European fellowships and grants, events

- **You can join:** sign-up to our community online or mailing list, follow us on social media

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE
EURAXESS Links North America

Find jobs and fellowships in Europe

Full-time junior assistant - Department of Internal medicine
PhD in Applied Linguistics - Custom Linguistics
More

Find jobs and fellowships in North America

Postdoctoral Fellow in Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy
Post date: 27-04 - Organisation: Life Science Network gGmbH - Research Fields: Medical sciences, Physics, Chemistry, Biological sciences
More

Publish your job vacancies or fellowships on-line

Events

ERA-CAN+ Information Sessions in Victoria, Vancouver & Calgary - Canada - 3-5 May 2016
FREE Information sessions

EURAXESS Links Information Session at UC Berkeley - 29 April 2016 - 10-11:30am

eMerge Americas Conference - Miami Beach Convention Center, FL - 18-19 April 2016

Jobs

Postdoctoral position at the Pasteur Institute, Paris: Molecular profiling of T cell responses induced by candidate HIV vaccines
A 3-year post-doctoral position is available to study T cell responses induced by candidate HIV vaccines. The successful applicant will join the team of Lisa Chakraborty at the

15 APR 2016

News

Researchers at CIMA of the University of Navarra have identified a biomarker which offers prognosis after lung cancer surgery
Pamplona (Spain), 22 March. Scientists at the Centre for Applied Medical Research (CIMA) and the School of Medicine of the University of Navarra have identified a

15 APR 2016

More
European Scientific Diasporas Initiative

- **Launch**: November 2014

- **Members**: 15 European countries (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain & Turkey)

- **Aim**: Connect, share, learn, network & make a difference

- **Role of ELNA**: common European platform, ‘glue’

- **More information**: bit.ly/EU_Sc_Diasporas
Next steps

• New revamped EURAXESS portal (May/June 2016)

• Raising awareness for each Diaspora

• Each year – joint theme (2016 = MENTORSHIP)

• Coordination of working groups and annual meetings

• Communicating the needs of the European scientists to the European Commission

• Creating tangible results each year
New EURAXESS North America website

EURAXESS North America is the hub for Canada and the United States of America.
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)
MSCA within Horizon 2020

**Excellent Science (24.4 B €)**
- European Research Council (13.1 B €)
- Future and Emerging Technologies (2.7 B €)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (6.1 B €)
- Research Infrastructures (2.5 B €)

**Industrial Leadership (17 B €)**
- LEIT = Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies
  - ICT
  - Nano, new materials
  - Biotechnology
  - Space (13.5 B €)
- Access to Risk Finance (2.9 B €)
- Innovation in SMEs (0.5 B €)

**Societal Challenges (29.7 B €)**
- Health (7.5 B €)
- Food (3.9 B €)
- Energy (6 B €)
- Transport (6.3 B €)
- Climate (3 B €)
- Inclusive Societies (1.3 B €)
- Security (1.7 B €)

**Spreading Excellence (0.8 B €)**

**Science for Society (0.5 B €)**

- EIT (2.7 B €)
- JRC (1.9 B €)
- Euratom (1.6 B €)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

What the European Commission seeks

‘Ensure the optimum development and dynamic use of Europe’s intellectual capital to generate new skills, knowledge and innovation.’

General Aims:

◦ Attract and retain research talent
◦ Promote sustainable career development in research and innovation
◦ Ensure excellent and innovative research training
◦ Develop innovative training schemes

‘Brain Gain and Brain Circulation’
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

General features:

◦ Budget 2014-2020: € 6.162 billion
◦ Work Program 2016-2017 (10 calls)
◦ Bottom-up approach
◦ Mobility is a key requirement
◦ Open to researchers/staff of any nationality
◦ Open to all domains of research and innovation
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Support for 2 categories of researchers:

- **Early Stage Researcher**: Less than 4 years of research experience*, and without a doctoral degree ("pre-doc")

- **Experienced Researcher**: In possession of a doctoral degree or at least 4 years of res. experience* ("post-doc")

*counted from the time when the researcher is entitled to embark on a doctoral degree
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

28 EU Member

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria,
Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic,
Denmark, Estonia, Germany,
Greece, Finland, France,
Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia,
Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta,
Netherlands, Poland, Portugal,
Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia,
Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

13 Associated Countries

Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina,
Faroe Islands, FYROM, Island,
Israel, Moldova, Montenegro,
Norway, Serbia, Switzerland,
Turkey, Ukraine
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

How many?
2007-2013

# Fellowships (pre+post-doc):
- 778 US researchers and 1276 Europeans

# Staff exchanges:
- 540 from US and 1712 from EU
# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Innovative Training Networks</th>
<th>ITN</th>
<th>Doctoral and initial training: European Training Networks, European Industrial Doctorates, European Joint Joint Doctorates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Fellowships</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>Support for experienced researchers to undertake international and inter-sector mobility, incl. career restart and reintegration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Innovation Staff Exchange</td>
<td>RISE</td>
<td>International and inter-sector cooperation through the exchange of staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Co-funding of programmes    | COFUND | Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes:  
- doctoral programmes (ESR)  
- fellowship programmes (ER) |
Innovative Training Networks

- Research training for obtaining a PhD
- Transnational network in multi/interdisciplinary & emerging fields
  - Training primarily through research on individual, personalised research projects
- Complemented by substantial training modules in key transferable skills
- Exposure to the non-academic sector as elementary part of the training
- Working with the best researchers in Europe and internationally
- Duration: 3 year PhD training, Fellowships of 3-36 months
Innovative Training Networks

The Financial Dimension

Monthly rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research, networking, training costs</td>
<td>1,800 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and indirect costs</td>
<td>1,200 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living allowance*</td>
<td>3,110 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility allowance</td>
<td>600 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance</td>
<td>500 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Living allowance subject to country correction coefficient

§ Amount quoted is gross amount before deductions
Individual Fellowships (IF)

For fellows coming to or moving within Europe (12-24 months)

For fellows from Europe going to Third countries (12-24 months) and returning (12 months)
Individual Fellowships (EF & GF)

- **Mobility rule**: Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline.

- **Any scientific domain**: 8 scientific panels covering all possible research subjects: CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC.

- **Duration**: 1-2 years (EF); 1-2 years + 1 year return phase (GF).

- **Focus on career development**.

- Open to hosts from both academic and non-academic sectors.

- **Secondments** to / from the non/academic sector: 3 – 6 months.

- Strengthening networking capabilities both for researchers and for organisations involved.

- Separate multidisciplinary panels for Career Restart and Reintegration.
Reintegration Panel

Return and reintegration of researchers into a longer term research position in Europe

• Separate multi-disciplinary reintegration panel (RI)

• Researchers must be a national or long-term resident of a Member State (MS)/Associate Country (AC)
  
  • Long term resident: at least 5 consecutive years of research activity in one or more MS/AC

• Mobility rule different: Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the host organisation for more than 36 months in the 5 years immediately prior to the call deadline

• Mobility into Europe is essential
### Individual Fellowships MSCA

#### The Financial Dimension

#### Monthly rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research, networking, training costs</td>
<td>800 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and indirect costs</td>
<td>650 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living allowance*</td>
<td>4650§ €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility allowance</td>
<td>600§ €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance</td>
<td>500§ €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Living allowance subject to country correction coefficient

§ Amount quoted is gross amount before deductions
Proposal structure MSCA IF– Part B

In drafting PART B of the proposal, applicants must follow the structure outlined below.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

START PAGE COUNT

1. SUMMARY
2. EXCELLENCE
3. IMPACT MAX 10 pages
4. IMPLEMENTATION

STOP PAGE COUNT

5. CV OF THE EXPERIENCED RESEARCHER (max 5 pages)
6. CAPACITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS
7. ETHICAL ASPECTS
8. LETTERS OF COMMITMENT OF PARTNER ORGANISATIONS
# Evaluation Criteria – MSCA IF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellence</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Implementation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality, <strong>innovative aspects and credibility of the research</strong> (including inter/multidisciplinary aspects)</td>
<td>Enhancing research- and innovation-related human resources, skills and working conditions to realise the potential of individuals and to provide new career perspectives</td>
<td>Overall <strong>coherence</strong> and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clarity and quality of transfer of knowledge/training</strong> for the development of researcher in light of the research objectives</td>
<td>Effectiveness of the proposed measures for communication and results dissemination</td>
<td>Appropriateness of the <strong>management structures and procedures</strong>, including quality management and risk management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quality of the supervision</strong> and the hosting arrangements</td>
<td></td>
<td>Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capacity of the researcher</strong> to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity in research</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Competences</strong>, experience and <strong>complementarity</strong> of the participating organisations and institutional commitment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>20%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority in case of <em>ex aequo</em></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evaluation of MSCA IF

• Proposals are evaluated in 8 panels (CHE, SOC, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY)
• Researchers select the panel by themselves
• For the CAR and RI panels, a multidisciplinary ranking list each will be made
• The budget of the call will be distributed proportionally according to the number of applications submitted to each panel
• Each application will be evaluated by at least 3 experts

    • Useful link – MSCA National Contact Points (NCPs)
Timeline for MSCA IF 2016

- **12 April 2016**: Call for Proposals open
- **14 Sept 2016**: Call for Proposals close
- **Oct-Nov 2016**: Evaluation
- **Feb 2017**: First info to Applicant
- **May 2017**: First possible start date
- **May 2018**: Last possible start date

**Budget:** 218.50 million EUR
European Research Council (ERC)

https://vimeo.com/154715819
The ERC supports **excellence in frontier research** through a bottom-up, individual-based, pan-European competition.

**Budget:** € 13.09 billion (2014-2020) - 1.87 billion €/year
ERC calls are open to researchers of **any nationality, age or current place of work** in the world (with at least 50% of work time in Europe)

**ERC offers independence, recognition & visibility**

- to work on a research topic of **own choice**, with a team of **own choice**
- to gain true **financial autonomy** for 5 years
- to negotiate with the host institution the **best conditions** of work
- to attract **top team members** (EU and non-EU) and **collaborators**
- to move with the grant to any place in Europe if necessary (**portability of grants**)
- to attract **additional funding** and gain recognition; ERC is a quality label
more than 5,000 funded proposals; over €9 billion awarded
“excellence attracts excellence”: 50% of PIs in 50 institutions, but more than 500 different host institutions in 29 countries host the other 50% of the projects
highly competitive: average success rate 12%
European Research Council

**Starting Grants**
starters (2-7 years after PhD)
up to € 2.0 Mio for 5 years

**Consolidator Grants**
consolidators (7-12 years after PhD) up to € 2.75 Mio for 5 years

**Advanced Grants**
track-record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years up to € 3.5 Mio for 5 years

**Proof-of-Concept**
bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation up to €150,000 for ERC grant holders for 18 months
Role of the Host Institution

• Is located in an EU Member State or an Associated Country
• Hosts the PI for the duration of the project
• Is a legal entity: university, research center, business research unit, etc.
• Is committed to ensure that the PI may:
  o Apply for funding independently
  o Manage research and funding project
  o Publish independently as senior author
  o Have access to reasonable space and facilities
• Signs Grant Agreement
• Overhead: 25%
How to prepare and submit an ERC research proposal?

- Have a ground-breaking idea
- Design a research project to implement the idea
- Convince yourself on the feasibility of the project
- Ask yourself if you have the capabilities to build and supervise a research team to carry out the project
- Contact a HI where the project will be developed
- Get the support from the HI
- Write your research proposal
- Submit your research proposal within the deadline
3 domains and 25 panels

ERC panel structure

**Life Sciences**
- LS1 Molecular and Structural Biology and Biochemistry
- LS2 Genetics, Genomics, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology
- LS3 Cellular and Developmental Biology
- LS4 Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology
- LS5 Neurosciences and Neural Disorders
- LS6 Immunity and Infection
- LS7 Diagnostic Tools, Therapies & Public Health
- LS8 Evolutionary, Population and Environmental Biology
- LS9 Applied Life Sciences and Biotechnology

**Social Sciences and Humanities**
- SH1 Markets, Individuals and Institutions
- SH2 The Social World, Diversity and Common Ground
- SH3 Environment, Space and Population
- SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity
- SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production
- SH6 The Study of the Human Past

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

Each panel:
Panel Chair and 10-15 Panel Members
## Online Submission

### Proposal structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative forms (Part A)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 – General information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 – Administrative data of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participating organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 – Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 – Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 – Call specific questions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annexes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commitment of the host institution,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part B1 (submitted as pdf)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evaluated in Step 1 &amp; Step 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text box - Cross-panel explanation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a – Extended synopsis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b – Curriculum vitae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c – Track-record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix – Funding ID</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part B2 (submitted as pdf)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Not evaluated in Step 1 (Step 2 only)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a – State-of-the-art and objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b – Methodology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c – Resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Guidelines and Recommendations in the 2016 Information for Applicants**
How are the proposals evaluated?

Evaluation procedure
Single submission, but a two-step evaluation

STEP 1
Remote assessment by Panel members of section 1, part B1: synopsis and PI
Panel meeting
- Proposals rejected (score B & C)
- Proposals retained for step 2 (score A)

STEP 2
Remote assessment by Panel members and reviewers of full proposals: part B1+ B2
Panel meeting/interviews (StG and CoG)
- Ranked list of proposals (scores A & B)

Feedback to applicants
Redress
What is evaluated?
Excellence is the sole evaluation criterion
check the criteria in the Work Program!

Excellence of the Research Project

✔ Ground breaking nature Important challenge? Substantially beyond the current state of art? High-gain/high-risk balance
✔ Potential impact Possibility of a major break-through?
✔ Scientific Approach Feasibility, novel concepts/methodology

Excellence of the Principal Investigator

✔ Intellectual capacity: Track-record, capacity to go significantly beyond the state of the art, evidence of creative independent thinking
✔ Creativity
✔ Commitment: Willing to devote a significant part of PI's working time (minimum of 50% for Starting, minimum of 40% for Consolidator Grant)

Referees and panels evaluate and score each criterion, which results in a ranking of the proposals.
Register early, get familiar with the system and templates and start filling in the forms.

A submitted proposal can be revised until the call deadline by submitting a new version and overwriting the previous one.

Follow the formatting rules and page limits.

Download and proof-read the proposal before submitting.

Make use of the help tools and call documents (Information for Applicants, Work Programme, Frequently asked questions) to prepare your proposal.

Talk to the National Contact Points and your Institution's grant office.
ERC: A strong focus on Young Scientists

Two-thirds of ERC grants go to early-stage Principal Investigators.

+ 15 000 PhD and post-doc researchers working in ERC teams.

Reported ERC team members (May 2013)
*simple head count (995 projects; 6800 team members)
ERC: Attracting researchers to Europe

Nationality of ERC project teams (PIs not included)
Analysis of 1,901 Starting and Advanced Grants

EU: 71%
Assoc. Countries: 10%
non-ERA: 17%
unknown: 2%

+ 6,500 non-ERA team members most from China, US, India, and Russia
## ERC open and upcoming calls

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ERC calls</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Call Opening</th>
<th>Submission Deadline(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Starting Grants</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2016-StG</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Summer 2016</td>
<td>Next deadline fall 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consolidator Grants</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2016-CoG</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
<td>Next deadline in 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced Grants</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2016-AdG</td>
<td>540 M€</td>
<td>24 May 2016</td>
<td>1 September 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proof of Concept</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2015-PoC</td>
<td>20 M€</td>
<td>22 October 2015</td>
<td>26 May 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Useful links**

- **EURAXESS**: [www.euraxess.org](http://www.euraxess.org)
- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**: [http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/)
- **Horizon 2020**: [http://ec.europa.eu/programme](http://ec.europa.eu/programme)

- **Projects Bilateral Transatlantic Cooperation with the EU**
  - **BILAT USA 2.0**: [http://www.euusciencetechnology.eu/](http://www.euusciencetechnology.eu/)
  - **ERA-Can+**: [http://www.era-can.net/](http://www.era-can.net/)

- **Bridge between researchers and policy-makers in Europe**
Thank you!

Viktoria Bodnarova
EURAXESS Links North America
Regional Representative
northamerica@euraxess.net