Research grants and programmes: what the EU has to offer

IDPASC school, Asiago

June 26, 2017

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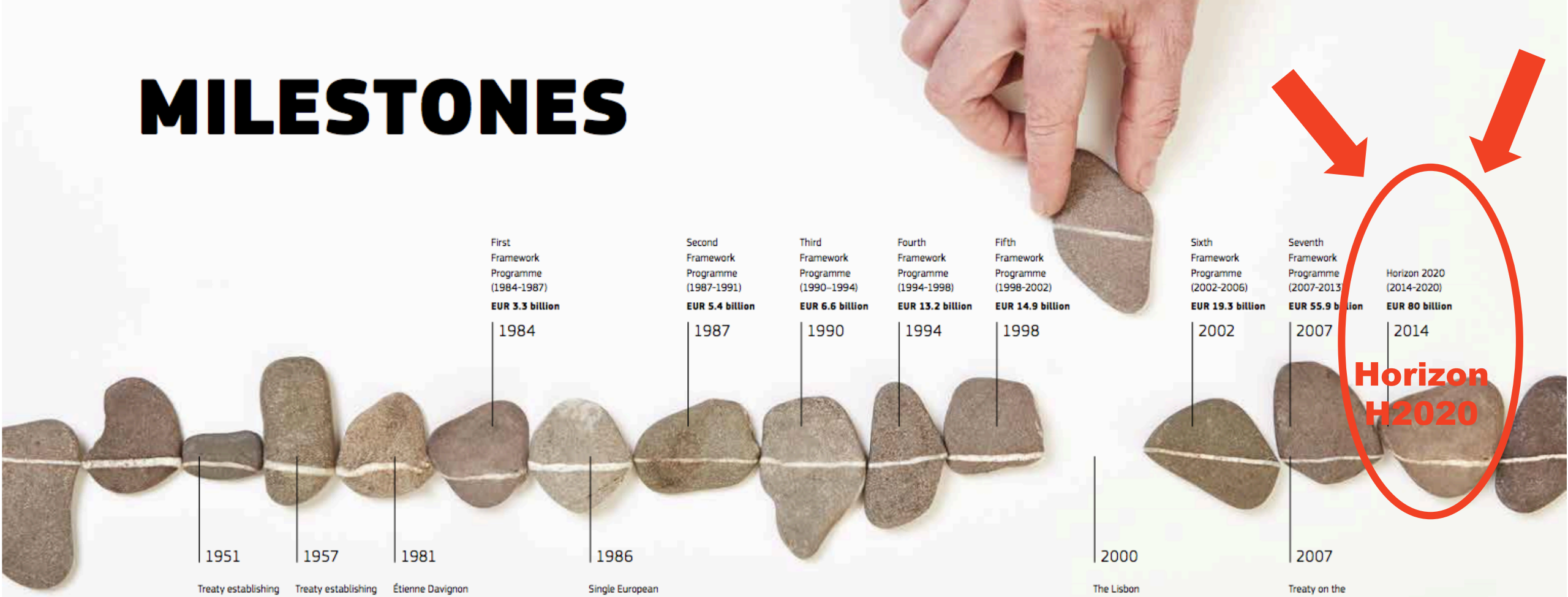
MILESTONES



1951

Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) signed.
It provides for the funding of research for the coal and steel industries.

1957

Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) signed.
It provides for research into nuclear energy between countries.

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) is launched.
It provides independent scientific and technical advice to the European Commission.

1981

Étienne Davignon becomes European Commissioner for Industrial Affairs and Energy and decides to rationalise research funding under a single framework.

1984

First Framework Programme (1984-1987)
EUR 3.3 billion

1986

Single European Act signed.
It includes, for the first time in an EU Treaty, a chapter on research.

1987

Second Framework Programme (1987-1991)
EUR 5.4 billion

1990

Third Framework Programme (1990–1994)
EUR 6.6 billion

1994

Fourth Framework Programme (1994-1998)
EUR 13.2 billion

1998

Fifth Framework Programme (1998-2002)
EUR 14.9 billion

2000

The Lisbon European Council launches the European Research Area (ERA).

2002

Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)
EUR 19.3 billion

2007

Treaty on the European Union (Treaty of Lisbon) signed.

The European Research Council (ERC) is launched.
It funds frontier research.

2007

Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013)
EUR 55.9 billion

2014

Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)
EUR 80 billion

Horizon H2020

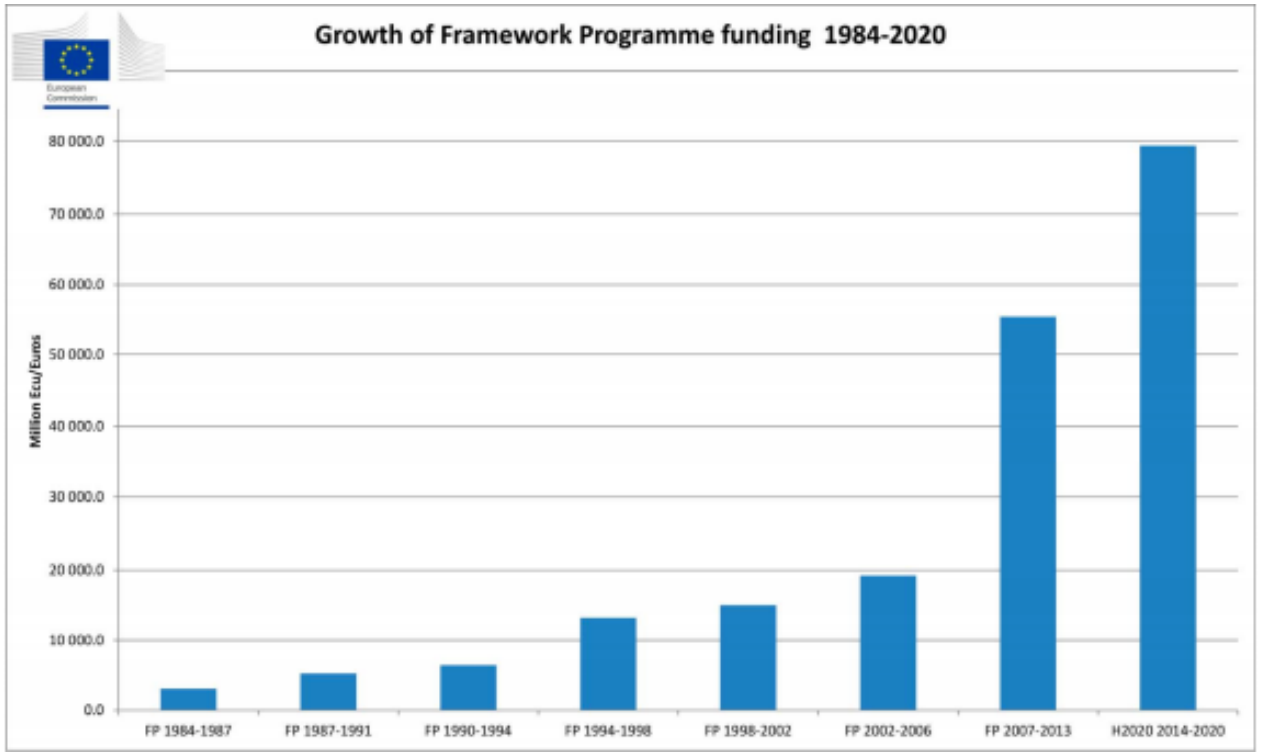
What is Horizon 2020?

€80 billion funding from the European Commission for research and innovation (2014-2020)

- 7 year global programme with 2-year work programmes
- 3rd largest programme after Structural Funds and Common Agricultural Policy

A core part of Europe 2020, Innovation Union & European Research Area:

- Responding to the economic crisis to invest in future jobs and growth
- Addressing people's concerns about their livelihoods, safety and environment
- Strengthening the EU's global position in research, innovation and technology



3 pillars and 5 transversal programmes

EXCELLENT SCIENCE

World class science is the foundation of tomorrow's technologies, jobs and wellbeing

Europe needs to develop, attract and retain research talent

INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

Strategic investments in key technologies such as ICT, biotechnologies, materials, manufacturing, space and nanotechnologies

Europe needs to attract more private investment in research and innovation

Europe needs more innovative small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to create growth and jobs

SOCIETAL CHALLENGES

Responding to concerns of citizens and EU policy objectives (climate, environment, energy, transport, etc.)

Breakthrough solutions come from multi-disciplinary collaborations

Promising solutions need to be tested, demonstrated and scaled up

SCIENCE WITH AND FOR SOCIETY (SWAFS)

SPREADING EXCELLENCE AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

JOINT RESEARCH CENTER (JRC)

EURATOM

3 pillars and 5 transversal programmes

EXCELLENT SCIENCE

- European Research Council (ERC)
- Marie Sklodowska-Curie actions (MSCA)
- Future and Emerging Technologies (FET)
- Research Infrastructures (including e-infrastructure)

INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

- Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEITs)
  - ICT
  - Nanotechnologies
  - Advanced Materials
  - Biotechnology
  - Advanced manufacturing and processing
  - Space
- Access to risk finance
- Innovation in SMEs

SOCIETAL CHALLENGES

- Health (SC1)
- Food (SC2)
- Energy (SC3)
- Transport (SC4)
- Environment (SC5)
- Inclusive Societies (SC6)
- Secure Societies (SC7)

SCIENCE WITH AND FOR SOCIETY (SWAFS)

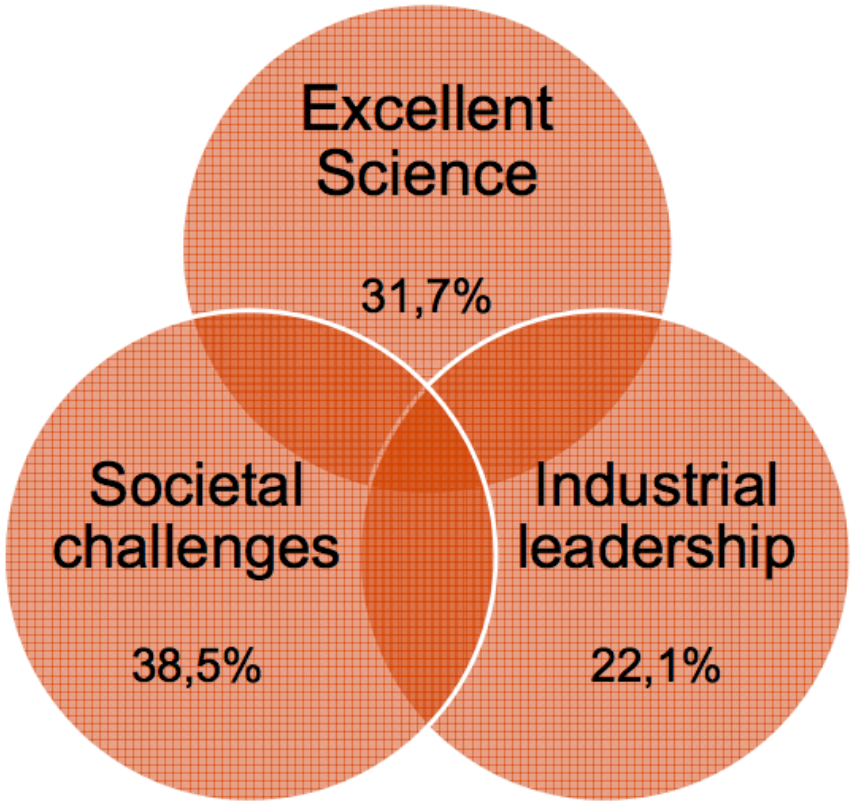
SPREADING EXCELLENCE AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION

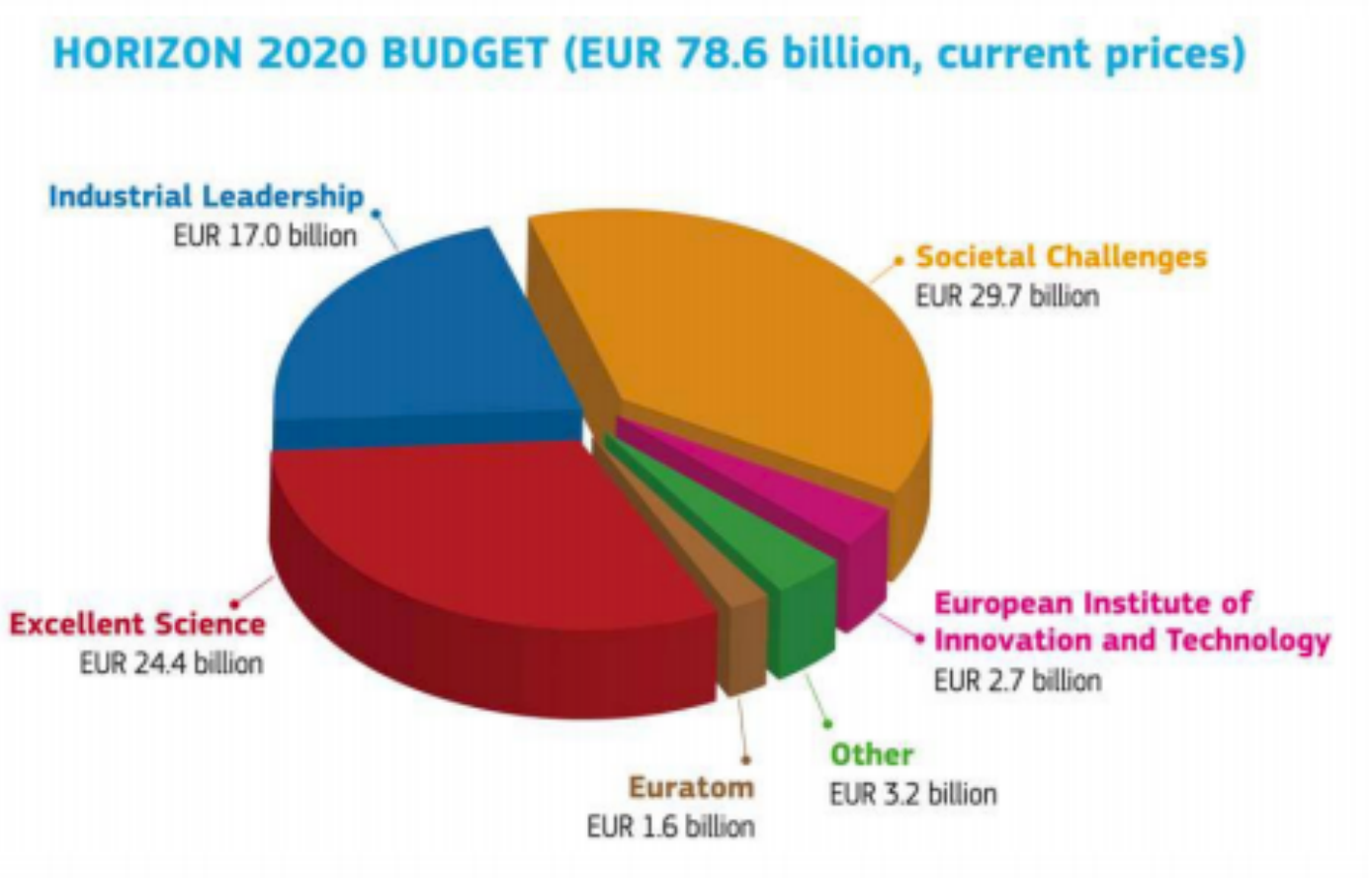
EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

JOINT RESEARCH CENTER (JRC)

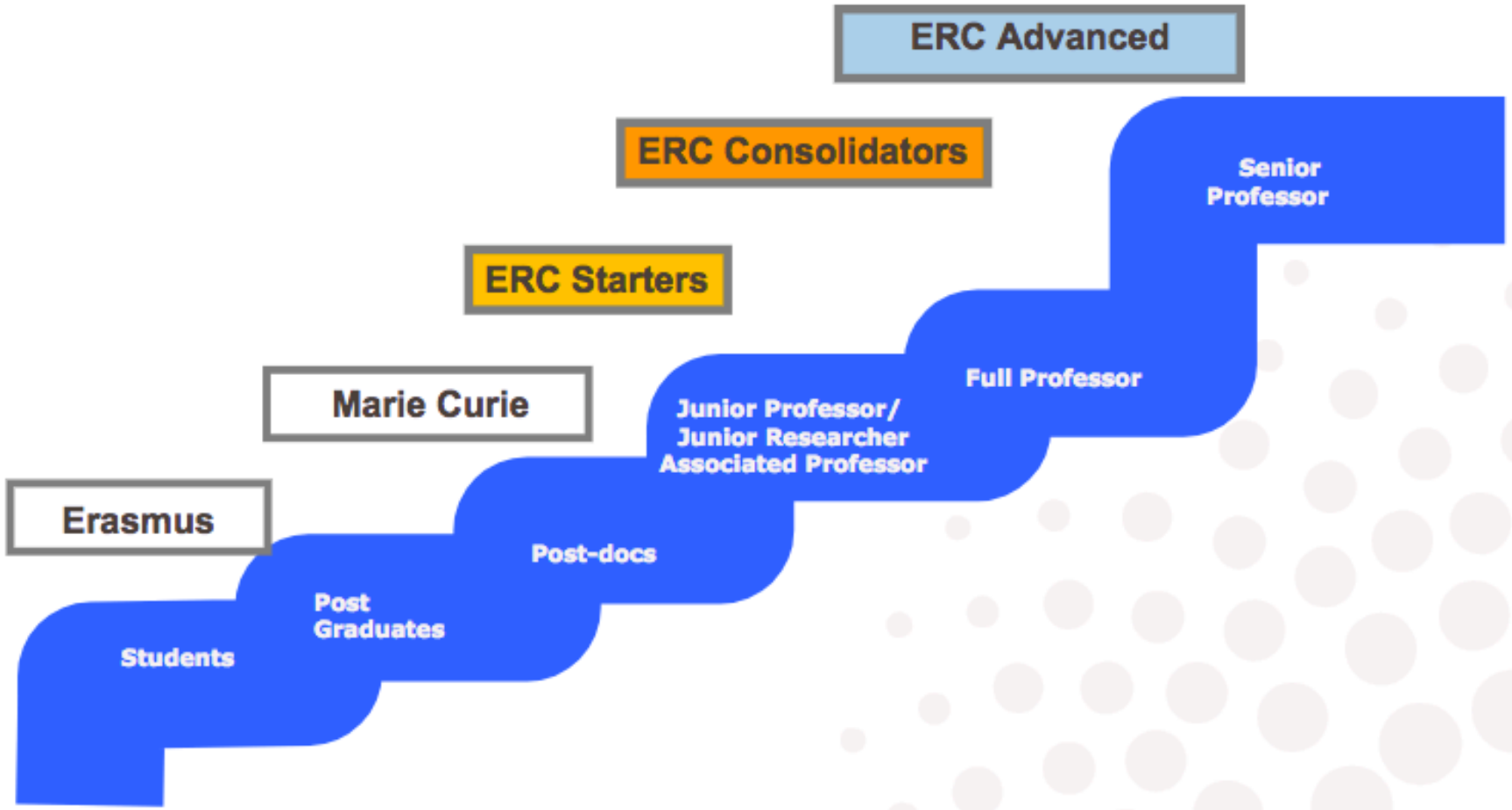
EURATOM

The three main pillars and their funding





Researchers' career development



Bottom-up approaches:

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA):

  opportunities for training and career development

- European Research Council (ERC):

  frontier research by the best individual teams

H2020 Glossary

MS	member state of the European Union
AC	associated country of the European Union (Iceland, Norway, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Israel, Moldova, Switzerland, Faroe Islands, Ukraine, Tunisia, Georgia, Armenia)
TC	third country (all countries that are not MS or AC)
Intersectoral	involves academic and non-academic partners
Secondment	period spent within an institution/company that is not the host institution
ESR	early stage researcher, without PhD, less than four years research experience
ER	doctoral degree or at least four years' full-time research experience by the time of the call deadline
Long-term resident	researchers who spent a period of full-time research activity of at least five consecutive years (without breaks in research) in one or more MS or AC

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Training and career development

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS 2014-2020

€ 6.2
billion budget

65000
researchers to be supported

140+
different nationalities

38%
of researchers are female

The researchers who **CROSSED BORDERS** for science

BY JON CARTWRIGHT

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions have been designed to promote excellence in research by giving grants to scientists who needed to move country to further their careers.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-fDoxerKeA

New skills, knowledge and innovation

- For researchers of **any nationality and age**, at any career stage
- Fostering **new skills** through excellence **in initial** training of researchers
- Nurturing **excellence** through **cross-border** and **cross-sector** mobility
- Stimulating innovation through cross-fertilisation of knowledge
- All fields of research
- Particular attention to **gender balance**
- Participation of non-academic sector strongly encouraged
- Public engagement

Actions

ITN PhD students	Innovative Training Networks funding Early Stage Researchers (ESR = without PhD) for their initial training
IF Experienced researchers	Individual fellowship funding Experienced Researchers (ER = with PhD) moving between countries
RISE R&I Staff Exchange	Funding international and intersectoral cooperation through exchange of staff involved in R&I
COFUND Cofunding	Cofunding of regional, national, or international programmes to supporto PhD students and postdocs
NIGHT European Researchers' Night	Funding of institutions participating in the European Researchers' Night

INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA CURIE ACTIONS

MSCA - IF 2017

European Commission


Acquisition and transfer of new knowledge
Work on research and innovation in a European context or outside Europe
What for?
Individual Fellowship
For who?
Researchers wishing to return and reintegrate into a longer term research position in Europe
Researchers seeking to work on research and innovation projects in an organisation from the non-academic sector
Researchers who want to resume research in Europe after a career break, e.g. after parental leave

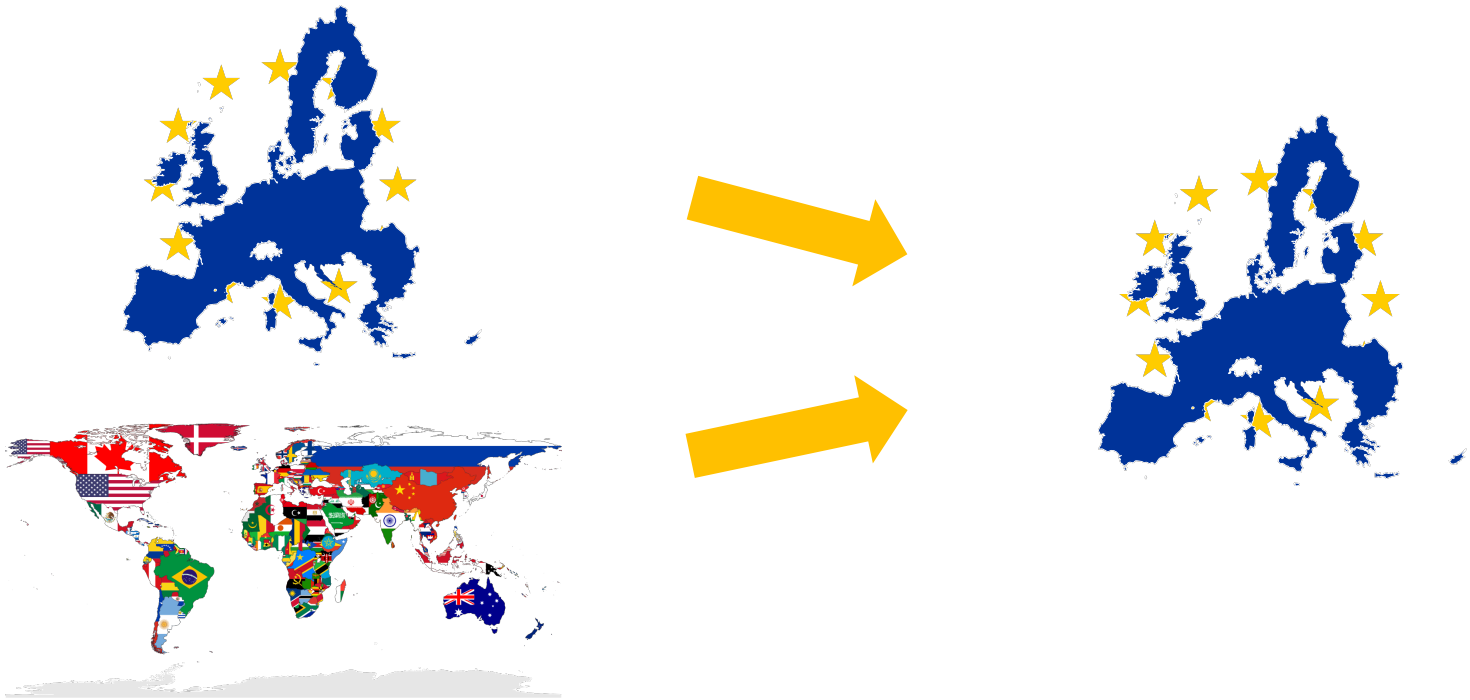
IF – Main characteristics

Expected impact:

To release the full potential of researchers and development of their careers in both the academic and non-academic sectors

- Support for **experienced researchers** of any nationality and age (IF Global and IF Reintegration only for MS or AC citizens or long-time residents)
- Focus on **training and career development**
- Duration of the project: 12-24 months (IF Global: 24-36 months)
- Possible **secondment**: 3-6 months (notably in non-academic sector)
- **8 scientific areas**: Chemistry (CHE) Physics (PHY) Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC) Mathematics (MAT) Information Science and Engineering (ENG) Life Sciences (LIF) Environment and Geosciences (ENV) Economic Sciences (ECO)
- Evaluation principles: **excellence, impact, implementation**

For Fellows coming to or moving within Europe



Any ER may submit only one proposal to this call for proposals

European Fellowship (EF)

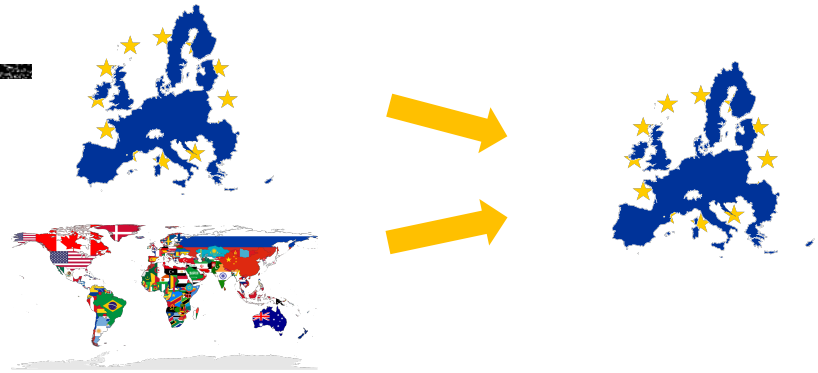
Standard Panel (ST)

Reintegration Panel (RI)

Career Restart Panel (CAR)

Society and Enterprise Panel (SE)

European Fellowships – Standard Panel (ST)



Separate ranking list for each of the 8 scientific areas

One ER applies jointly with one host institution located in a MS or AC for a research project that can last between 12 or 24 months

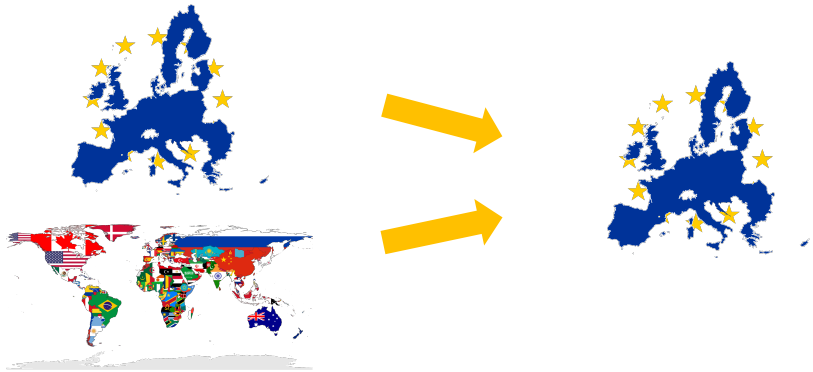
Host Institution (future Beneficiary)

- located in MS or AC
- Academic or non-academic sector
- Appoints supervisor
- Recruits the ER

Researcher (future Fellow)

- ER
- Any nationality
- must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the call deadline

European Fellowships – Career Restart Panel (CAR)



Multidisciplinary panel – 1 ranking list for all scientific areas

Dedicated to researchers who wish to resume research in Europe after a career break (e.g. after parental leave, working outside research, etc.)

One ER applies jointly with one host institution located in a MS or AC for a research project that can last between 12 or 24 months

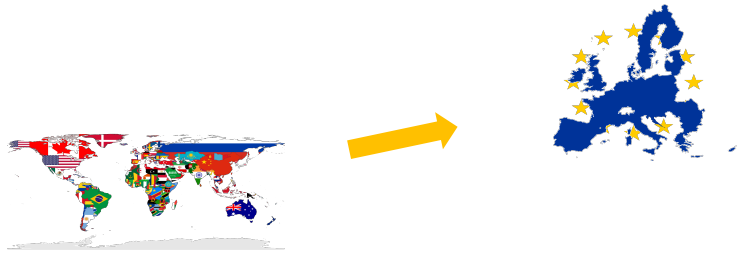
Host Institution (future Beneficiary)

- located in MS or AC
- Academic or non-academic sector
- Appoints supervisor
- Recruits the ER

Researcher (future Fellow)

- ER
- Any nationality
- must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 36 months in the 5 years immediately before the call deadline
- must have had a career break in research, i.e. they must not have been active in research for at least 12 months immediately prior to the deadline

European Fellowships – Reintegration Panel (RI)



Multidisciplinary panel – 1 ranking list for all scientific areas

Dedicated to researchers who wish to return and reintegrate in a longer term research position in Europe

One ER applies jointly with one host institution located in a MS or AC for a research project that can last between 12 or 24 months

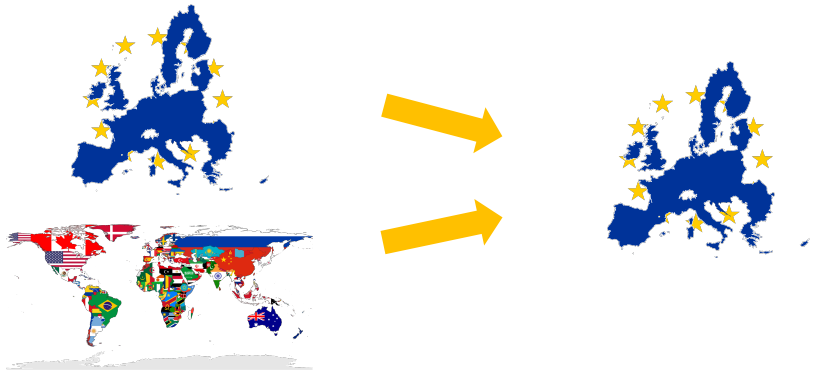
Host Institution (future Beneficiary)

- located in MS or AC
- Academic or non-academic sector
- Appoints supervisor
- Recruits the ER

Researcher (future Fellow)

- ER
- from TC to MS or AC
- national or long-term resident of a MS or AC
- must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 36 months in the 5 years immediately before the call deadline

European Fellowships – Society and Enterprise Panel (SE)



Multidisciplinary panel – 1 ranking list for all scientific areas

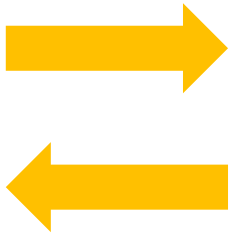
One ER applies jointly with one host institution located in a MS or AC for a research project that can last between 12 or 24 months

Host Institution (future Beneficiary)

- located in MS or AC
- must be an entity from the non-academic sector
- Appoints supervisor
- Recruits the ER

Researcher (future Fellow)

- ER
- Any nationality
- must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary for more than 36 months in the 5 years immediately before the call deadline



Global Fellowship (GF)

Separate ranking list for each of the 8 scientific areas

Host Institution (future Beneficiary)

- located in MS or AC
- Academic or non-academic sector
- Appoints supervisor
- Recruits the ER

Partner organisation

- located in TC
- Academic or non-academic sector

Researcher (future Fellow)

- ER
- national or long-term resident of a MS or AC
- going to TC (12-24 months) and returning (12 months)
- must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the TC of the outgoing phase for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the call deadline

The project

- Concrete plan of training-through-research: individual personalised action
- Realistic and well-defined objective in terms of career advancement
- Hands-on training activities for developing scientific (new techniques, instruments, etc.) and transferable skills (entrepreneurship, proposal preparation to request funding, task coordination, etc.)
- Inter-sectoral or interdisciplinary knowledge transfer (e.g. through secondments)
- Taking part in the research and financial management of the action
- Organisation of scientific/training/dissemination events
- Communication and outreach activities
- Training dedicated to gender issues

Funding

	Researcher unit cost in EUR person/month			**Institutional unit cost in EUR** person/month	
	Living Allowance	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs
Individual Fellowships	4,650	600	500	800	650

The proposal

Part B-1:

*The **maximum** total length for this document is **13 pages.** It should be composed as follows (detailed description below):*

- Start Page	*...must consist of...*	*1 whole page.*
- Table of Contents		*1 whole page.*
- List of Participating Organisations		*1 whole page.*
- Section 1: *Excellence (starts on page 4)*		*10 pages MAX.*
- Section 2 : *Impact*		
- Section 3 : *Implementation*		

*Of the **maximum 10 pages** applied to sections 1, 2 and 3, applicants are free to decide on the allocation of pages between the sections. However, the overall page limit will be strictly applied, **excess pages** will be **watermarked** and experts will be strictly instructed to **disregard** them.*

Part B-2:

*Part B-2 must contain sections 4-7 as described below. **No overall page limit** will be applied to this document, but applicants should respect the instructions given per section (e.g. in section 5, a maximum of one page should be used per beneficiary and one page per partner organisation).*

- *Section 4: CV of the experienced researcher*	*5 pages MAX.*
- *Section 5: Capacities of the participating organisations*	*1 page / participating organisation.*
- *Section 6: Ethical aspects*	
- *Section 7: Letter of commitment of the partner organisation (for GF only)*	

*Note that applicants will not be able to submit their proposal in the submission system unless **both documents** 1 and 2 are provided **in pdf format** (*Adobe version 3 or higher, with embedded fonts*).*

The CV is intrinsic to the evaluation of the whole proposal and is assessed throughout the 3 evaluation criteria by the expert evaluators. Please make sure that the information between part A and B is fully consistent.

Applicants without a doctorate should clearly justify any period of Full-Time Equivalent Research Experience in the CV part B (section 4). It is essential that the CV clearly explains how the Research Experience is calculated, following this template.

This section should be limited to maximum 5 pages and should include **the standard academic and research record.** Any research career gaps and/or unconventional paths should be clearly explained so that this can be fairly assessed by the independent evaluators.

The *experienced researcher* must provide a list of achievements reflecting their track record, if applicable:

1. **Publications** in peer-reviewed scientific journals, peer-reviewed conference proceedings and/or monographs of their respective research fields, indicating also the number of citations (excluding self-citations) they have attracted.
2. Granted **patent(s)**.
3. **Research monographs, chapters** in collective volumes and any translations thereof.
4. **Invited presentations** to peer-reviewed, internationally established conferences and/or international advanced schools.
5. **Research expeditions** led by that the *experienced researcher*.
6. **Organisation of International conferences** in the field of the researcher (membership in the steering and/or programme committee).
7. Examples of **participation in industrial innovation**.
8. **Prizes and Awards**.
9. **Funding** received so far.
10. **Supervising** and **mentoring** activities.

CV of the researcher

Excellence	Impact	Implementation
Quality and credibility of the research/innovation project; level of novelty, appropriate consideration of inter/multidisciplinary and gender aspects	Enhancing the potential and future career prospects of the researcher	Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan
Quality and appropriateness of the training and of the two way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host	Quality of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results	Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources
Quality of the supervision and of the integration in the team/institution	Quality of the proposed measures to communicate the project activities to different target audiences	Appropriateness of the management structure and procedures, including risk management
Capacity of the researcher to reach or re-enforce a position of professional maturity/independence		Appropriateness of the institutional environment (infrastructure)
50%	30%	20%
1	2	3

NB: An overall threshold of 70% will be applied to the total weighted score.

Evaluation

Proposals are submitted in a single stage and evaluated in one step.

Each proposal will be assessed independently by at least three experts.

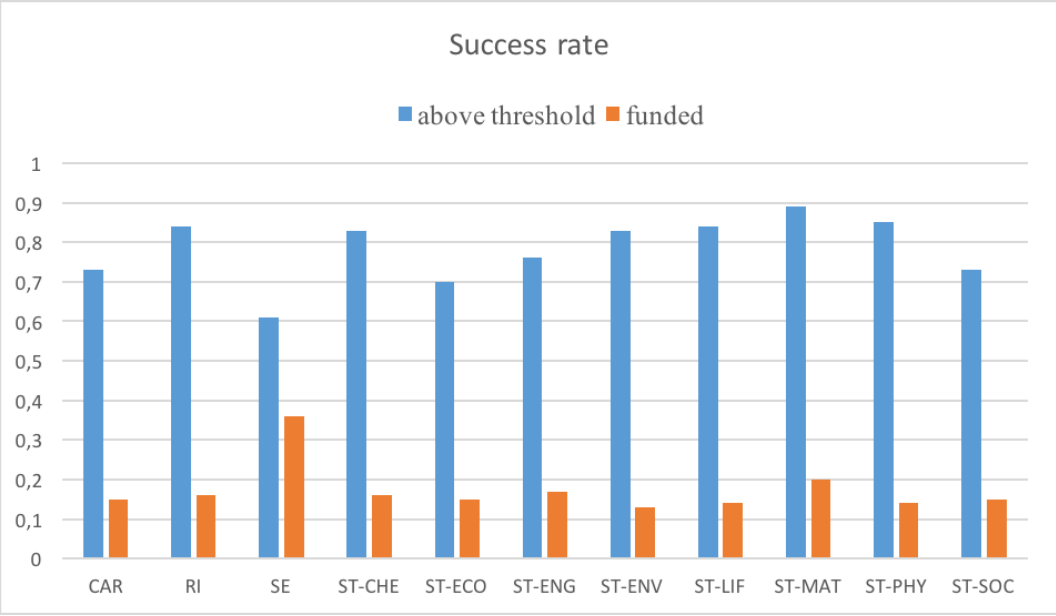
Each criterion will be scored out of 5.
0 – Proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
1 – Poor. The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
2 – Fair. Proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
3 – Good. Proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
4 – Very Good. Proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
5 – Excellent. Proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

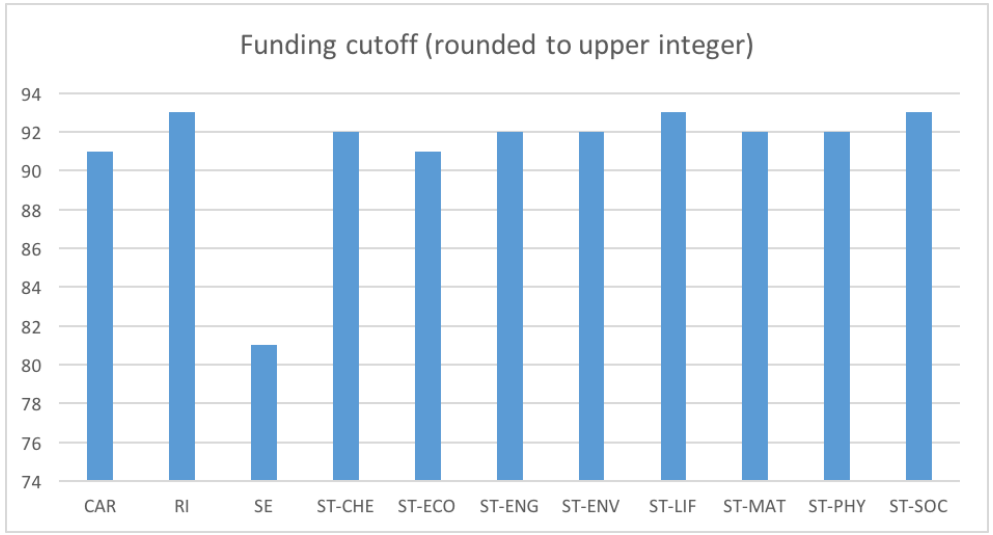
Results EF H2020-MSCA-IF-2016

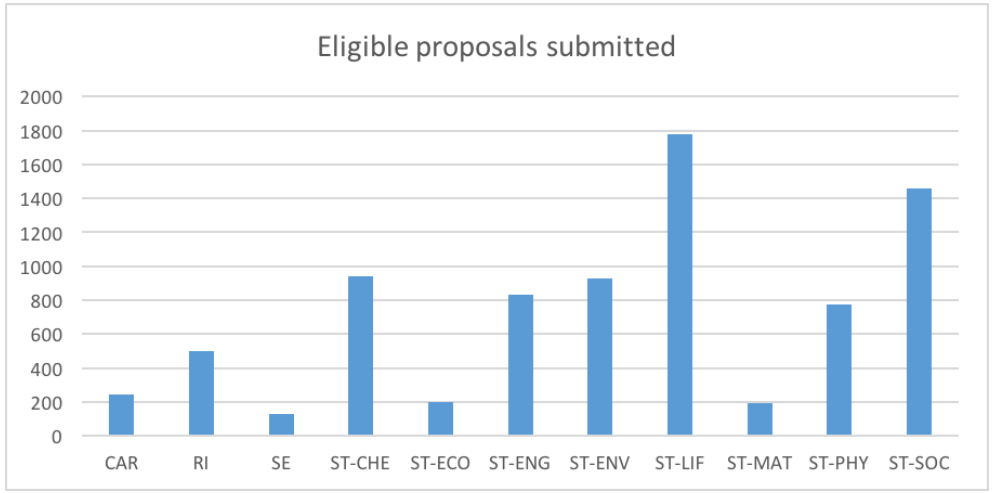
Proposals submitted (ineligible)

EF-ST:	7139 (69)
EF-CAR:	248 (5)
EF-RI:	509 (9)
EF-SE:	134 (1)

Success rate EF-ST total: 15%





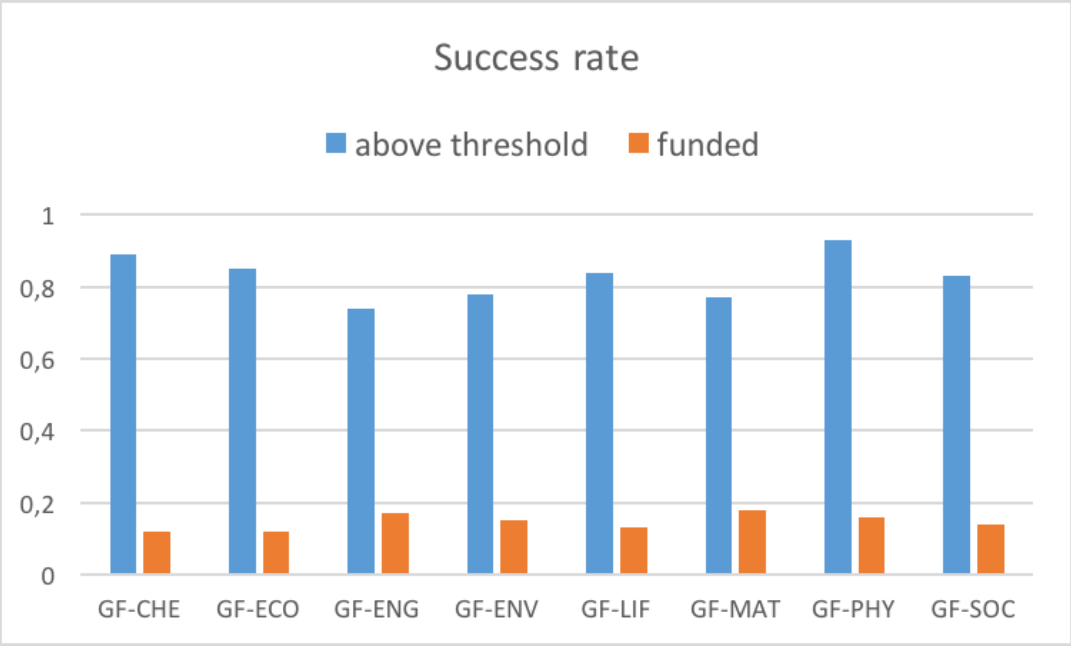


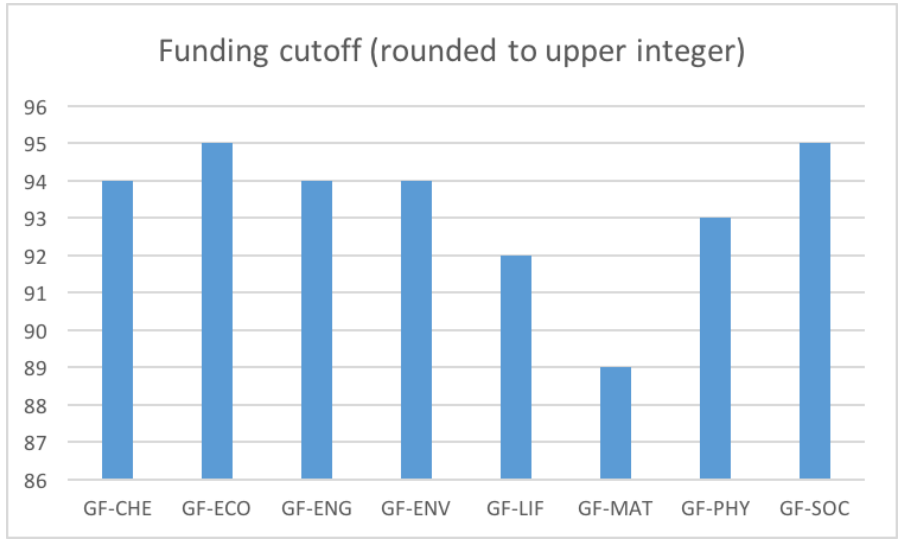
Data source: H2020 Participant Portal

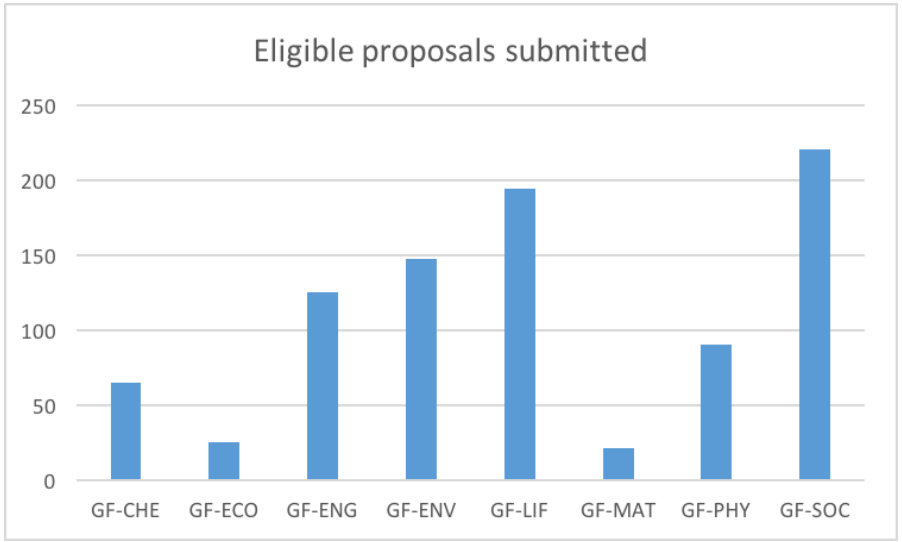
Results GF H2020-MSCA-IF-2016

916 proposals submitted (21 ineligible)

Success rate GF total: 14%







Data source: H2020 Participant Portal

Next call

Topics (Type of Action)	Budgets (EUR million)	Deadlines
	2017	
Opening: 11 Apr 2017		
MSCA-IF-2017 (MSCA-IF-EF-CAR) MSCA-IF-2017 (MSCA-IF-EF-RI) MSCA-IF-2017 (MSCA-IF-EF-ST)	205.00	14 Sep 2017
MSCA-IF-2017 (MSCA-IF-EF-SE)	10.00	
MSCA-IF-2017 (MSCA-IF-GF)	33.70	
Overall indicative budget	248.70	

Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission

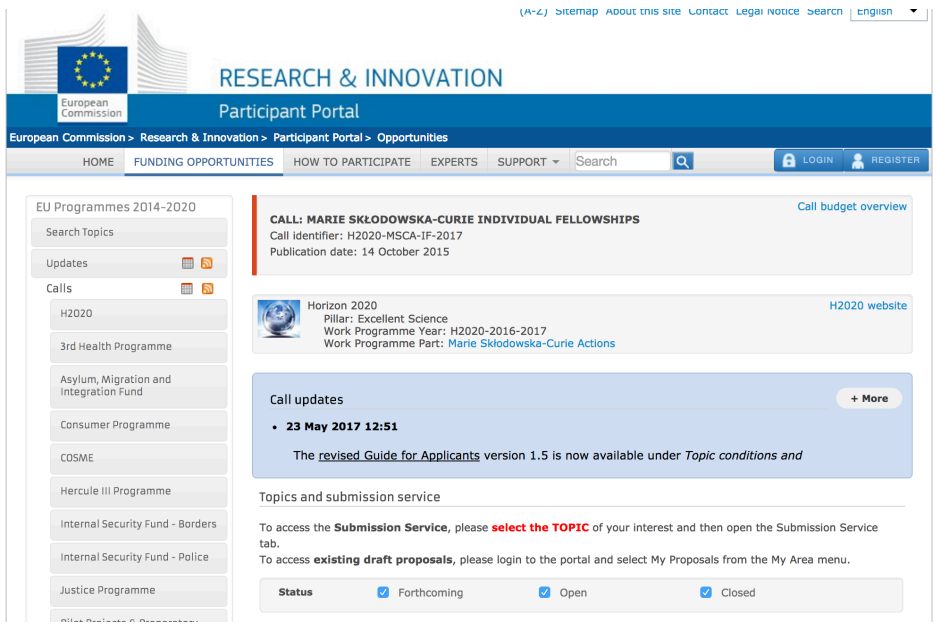
Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the final date for submission.


Opening date
Proposal writing with company supervision and advices
Max 5 months
Max 3 months
Maximum one year
11 Apr 2017
May
Proposal of maximum 10 pages, excluding the CV of the researcher and the annexes
Deadline for submission 14 Sept 2017, 17:00:00 Brussels time
Results of the evaluation (~January)
Signing of the grant agreement (~March)
Start of the 12/24 months project (Between January and May)

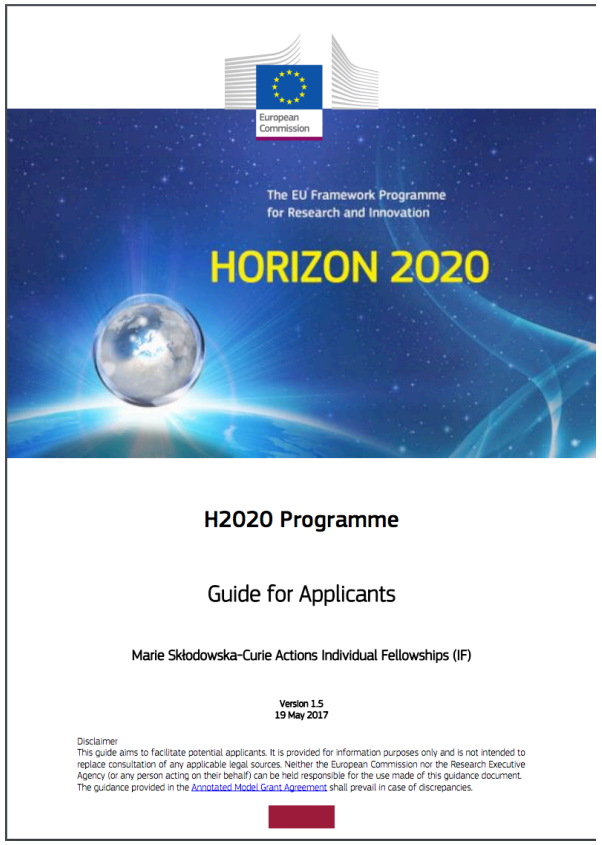
Key features MSCA Actions

- Focus on training and career development
- Bottom-up
- Cross-border and cross-sectoral mobility (triple “I”: international, inter-sectoral, and inter-disciplinary)
- All research areas

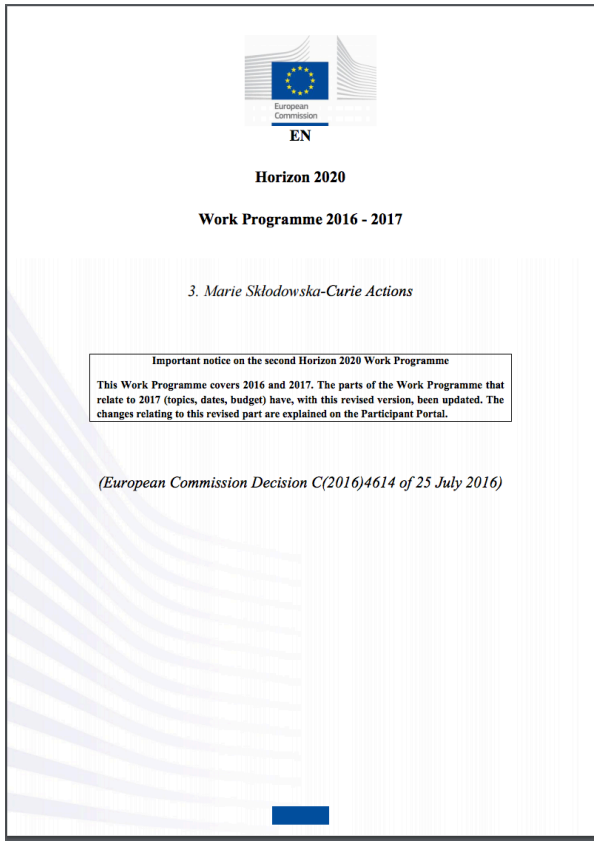
Useful documentation



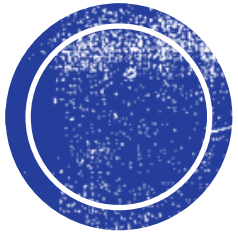
https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/msca-if-2017.html



http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/guides_for_applicants/h2020-guide-appl-msca-if_en.pdf



http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2016_2017/main/h2020-wp1617-msca_en.pdf



European Research Council (ERC)

Career consolidation

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTgD1msqOxA

Excellence and frontier research

- **Pioneering**: broaden scientific and technological knowledge and open new horizons
- **Ground breaking**: at the frontiers of knowledge
- **High-risk, high gain**
- **Interdisciplinary**
- Overcoming traditional separation of sectors
- **New and emerging** fields
- **Innovative** methodologies

1 researcher – 1 host institution – 1 project

The researcher (PI: Principal Investigator)

- ERC funds individual scientists
- Any nationality, age or current place of work in the world
- Make Europe more attractive for global scientific talent – favor "brain gain" and reverse "brain drain"
- Exceptional profile

Research team (to be created)

- PI can choose national or trans-national team members if scientific added value proven
- Grant covers salary of team members

Frontier research project

- All fields of fundamental research
- Bottom-up: no predetermined subjects, no priorities
- High risk, high gain and curiosity-driven research
- 5 years projects
- No consortia, no networks, no co-funding

Host institution (HI)

- The one where the researcher already works or any other institution established in a MS or AC
- Grants are portable: PI can change host institution
- Universities, research centers (public or private)
- Hires PI at least for duration of project

Research areas: 3 domains, 25 panels

No division of the call budget per domain

Life Sciences

- LS1 Molecular & Structural Biology & Biochemistry
- LS2 Genetics, Genomics, Bioinformatics & Systems Biology
- LS3 Cellular and Developmental Biology
- LS4 Physiology, Pathophysiology & Endocrinology
- LS5 Neurosciences & neural disorders
- LS6 Immunity & infection
- LS7 Diagnostic tools, therapies & public health
- LS8 Evolutionary, population & environmental biology
- LS9 Applied life sciences & biotechnology

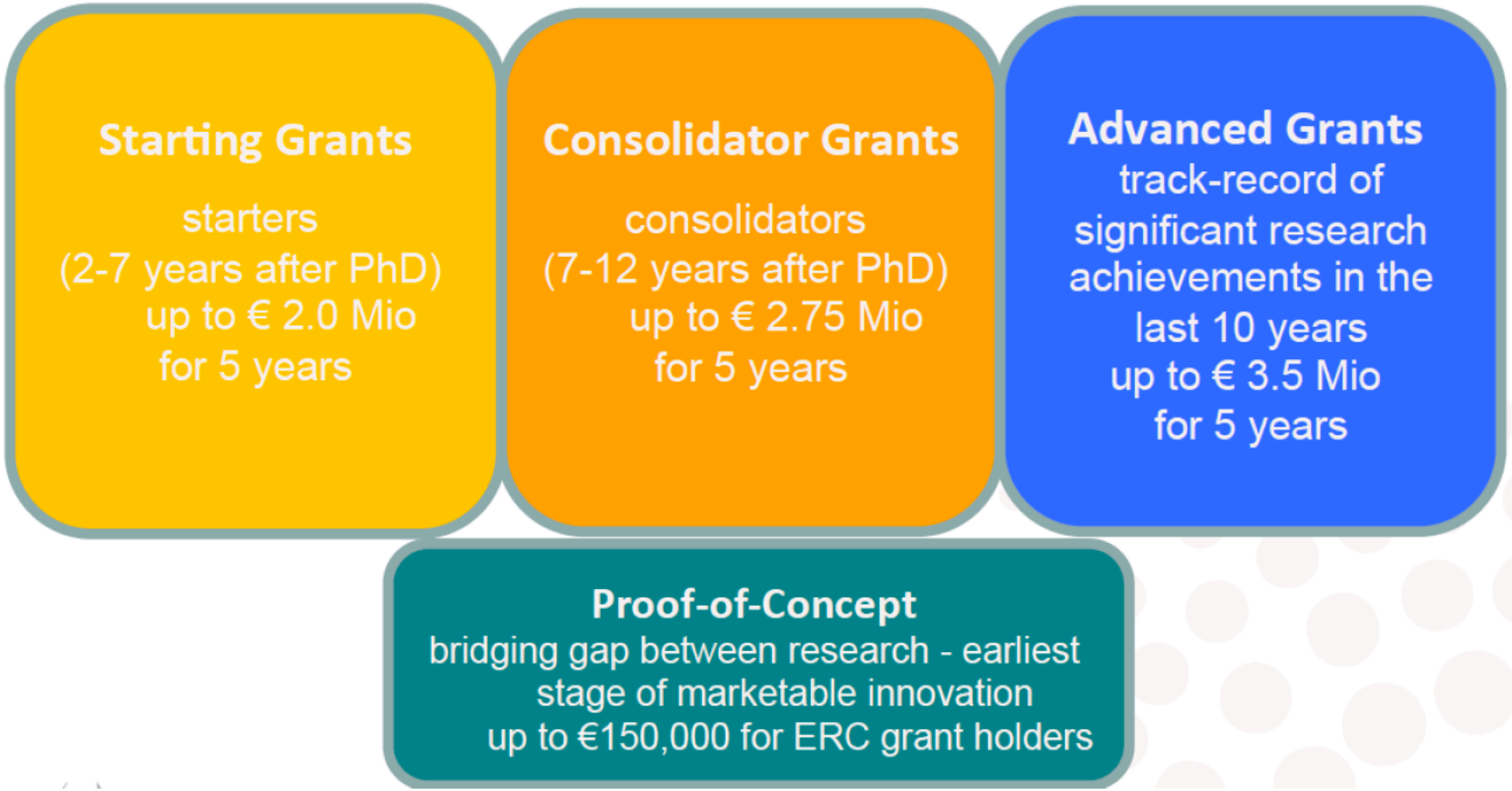
Social Sciences and Humanities

- SH1 Individuals, institutions & markets
- SH2 The social world, diversity and common ground
- SH3 Environment ,space and population
- SH4 The Human Mind and its complexity
- SH5 Cultures & 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 Materials & Synthesis
- PE6 Computer science & informatics
- PE7 Systems & communication engineering
- PE8 Products & process engineering
- PE9 Universe sciences
- PE10 Earth system science

Funding schemes



- maximum of **€ 1 500 000**, up to an additional € 500 000 can be requested under special circumstances.
- **5 years**
- One call per year
- Only evaluation criteria: **excellence** of the proposal and of the researcher
- PI has to spend at least 50% of working time on ERC project and at least 50% of total working time in MS or AC

Starting grants

Supporting excellent researchers at the career stage at which they are starting their own independent research team or programme

Profile of PI Starting Grant

- PI has been awarded PhD at least 2 years and up to 7 years prior to 1st January of year of call (extended for maternity/paternity leave, long-term illness, national service, clinical training)
- Any nationality and age
- must have already shown the potential for research independence and evidence of maturity
- at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor
- promising track record of early achievements (significant publications in major international peer-reviewed multidisciplinary scientific journals, or in the leading international peer-reviewed journals of their respective field, invited presentations in international conferences, granted patents, awards, prizes etc.)

Early achievements track record

In the Track record (see "Proposal description" below) the applicant Principal Investigator should list (if applicable):

1. ***Up to five publications*** *in* ***major international peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary scientific journals*** *and/or in the* ***leading international peer-reviewed journals, peer-reviewed conferences proceedings and/or monographs*** *of their respective research fields, highlighting those as main author or without the presence as co-author of their PhD supervisor (properly referenced, field relevant bibliometric indicators may also be included);*

2. ***Research monographs and any translations thereof****;*

3. ***Granted patent(s)****;*

4. ***Invited presentations to internationally established conferences and/or international advanced schools****;*

5. ***Prizes/ Awards/ Academy memberships****.*

- maximum of **€ 2 000 000**, up to an additional € 750 000 can be requested under special circumstances.
- **5 years**
- One call per year
- Only evaluation criteria: **excellence** of the proposal and of the researcher
- PI has to spend at least 40% of working time on ERC project and at least 50% of total working time in MS or AC

Consolidator grants

Supporting excellent researchers at the career stage at which they may still be consolidating their own independent research team or programme

Profile of PI Consolidator Grant

- PI has been awarded PhD over 7 years and up to 12 years prior to 1st January of year of call (extended for maternity/paternity leave, long-term illness, national service, clinical training)
- Any nationality and age
- must have already shown research independence and evidence of maturity
- several important publications as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor
- promising track record of early achievements (significant publications in major international peer-reviewed multidisciplinary scientific journals, or in the leading international peer-reviewed journals of their respective field, invited presentations in international conferences, granted patents, awards, prizes etc.)

Early achievements track record

In the Track Record (see "Proposal description" below) the applicant Principal Investigator should list (if applicable):

1. ***Up to ten publications*** *in* ***major international peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary scientific journals*** *and/or in the* ***leading international peer-reviewed journals, peer-reviewed conferences proceedings and/or monographs*** *of their respective research fields, highlighting those as main author or without the presence as co-author of their PhD supervisor (properly referenced, field relevant bibliometric indicators may also be included);*

2. ***Research monographs and any translations thereof;***

3. ***Granted patent(s);***

4. ***Invited presentations to internationally established conferences*** *and/or* ***international advanced schools;***

5. ***Prizes/ Awards/ Academy memberships.***

Submission and evaluation

Single submission, 2-step evaluation

- 1 deadline per call
- To a targeted panel
  → careful selection of **keywords**
- Via participant portal (electronically only)
- Proposals have **two parts**, A and B

Administrative forms (Part A)

1 – General information
2 – Administrative data of participating organisations
3 – Budget
4 – Ethics
5 – Call specific questions

Annexes

Commitment of the host institution for ERC Calls 2014

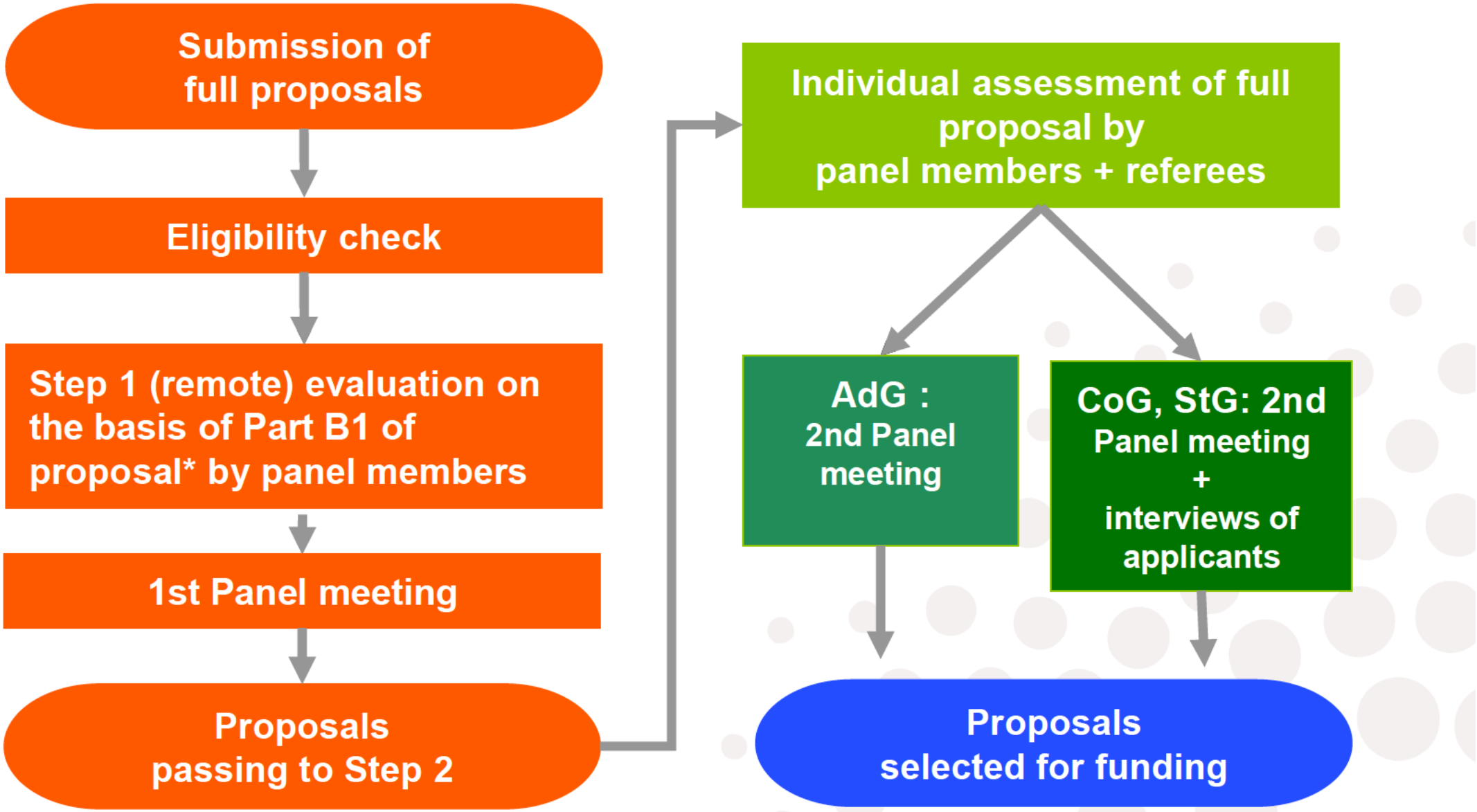
Research proposal (Part B1)

a – Extended synopsis	5p
b – Curriculum vitae	2p
c – Track-record	2p

Research proposal (Part B2)

***not* evaluated in Step 1**

Scientific proposal 15p
a – State-of-the-art and objectives
b – Methodology
c – Resources



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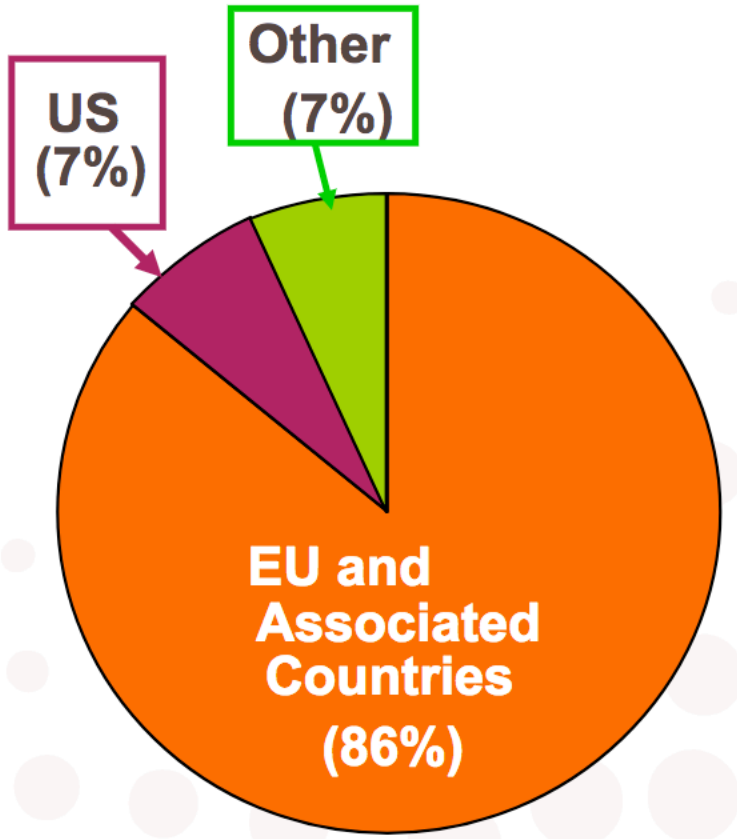
- **Panel members**: typically 375 / call
  - High-level scientists
  - Recruited by ScC from all over the world: ~14% from outside Europe
  - About 12-16 members plus a chair person
- **Referees**: typically 2000 / call
  - Evaluate only a small number of proposals
  - Similar to normal practice in peer-reviewed journals



Panel and referees

Step 1: Panel members

Generalists and with multidisciplinary approach see only part B1 or your proposal

☞ Provide concise and clear presentation, evaluators are not necessarily all experts in the field

Step 2: Panel members and referees

Both part B1 and B2 are also seen by specialized external referees

☞ Provide sufficient detail on methodology, work plan, selection of case studies, alternative strategies to mitigate risk

Evaluation of excellence

Excellence of the research project:

- Ground breaking nature
  - Important challenge? Substantially beyond the current state of the art? High gain/high risk balance
- Potential impact
  - Possibility of a major breakthrough?
- Scientific approach feasibility, novel concepts/methodology

Excellence of the PI

- 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

Referees and panels evaluate and score each criterion, which results in a ranking of the proposals

Step 1:

A	**Proposal is of sufficient quality to pass to Step 2 of the evaluation.**
B	Proposal is of **high quality but not sufficient** to pass to Step 2 of the evaluation. The applicant may also be subject to resubmission limitations in the next call(s).
C	Proposal is **not of sufficient quality** to pass to Step 2 of the evaluation. The applicant may also be subject to resubmission limitations in the next call(s).

Step 2:

A	**Proposal fully meets the ERC's excellence criterion and is recommended for funding if sufficient funds are available.**
B	Proposal meets **some but not all** elements of the ERC's excellence criterion and will not be funded. The applicant may also be subject to resubmission limitations in the next call(s).

Eligibility restrictions for future calls

No restrictions apply

*A Principal Investigator whose proposal was evaluated as **category A** in the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals under Work Programme 2016 may submit a proposal to the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals made under Work Programme 2017.*

*A Principal Investigator whose proposal was evaluated as **category B at step 2** in the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals under Work Programme 2016 may submit a proposal to the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals made under Work Programme 2017.*

Restrictions apply

*A Principal Investigator whose proposal was evaluated as **category B at step 1** in the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals under Work Programme 2016 may not submit a proposal to the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals made under Work Programme 2017.*

*A Principal Investigator whose proposal was evaluated as **category C** in the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals under Work Programmes 2015 or 2016 may not submit a proposal to the Starting, Consolidator or Advanced Grant calls for proposals made under Work Programme 2017.*

A Principal Investigator whose proposal was rejected on the grounds of a breach of research integrity in the calls for proposals under Work Programmes 2015 or 2016 may not submit a proposal to the calls for proposals made under Work Programme 2017.

ERC Call	Applications received	Of which		
		Evaluated*	Funded	Success rates (%)**
Starting Grant 2007	9,167	8,787	299	3.4
Starting Grant 2009	2,503	2,392	245	10.2
Starting Grant 2010	2,873	2,767	436	15.8
Starting Grant 2011	4,080	4,005	486	12.1
Starting Grant 2012	4,741	4,652	566	12.2
Starting Grant 2013	3,329	3,266	300	9.2
Starting Grant 2014	3,273	3,204	375	11.7
Starting Grant 2015	2,920	2,862	349	12.2
Starting Grant 2016	2,935	2,887	325	11.3
Starting Grant total	35,821	34,822	3,381	9.7
Consolidator Grant 2013	3,673	3,604	313	8.7
Consolidator Grant 2014	2,528	2,485	371	14.9
Consolidator Grant 2015	2,051	2,023	302	14.9
Consolidator Grant 2016	2,305	2,274	314	13.8
Consolidator Grant total	10,557	10,386	1,300	13.1

Statistics of past calls

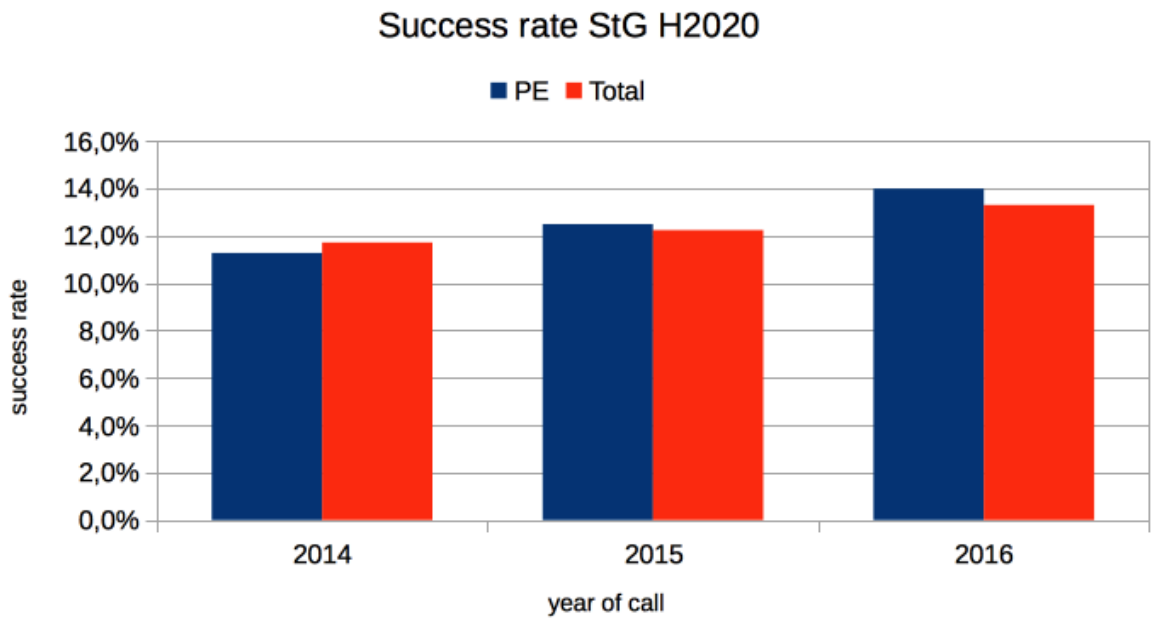
Success rate

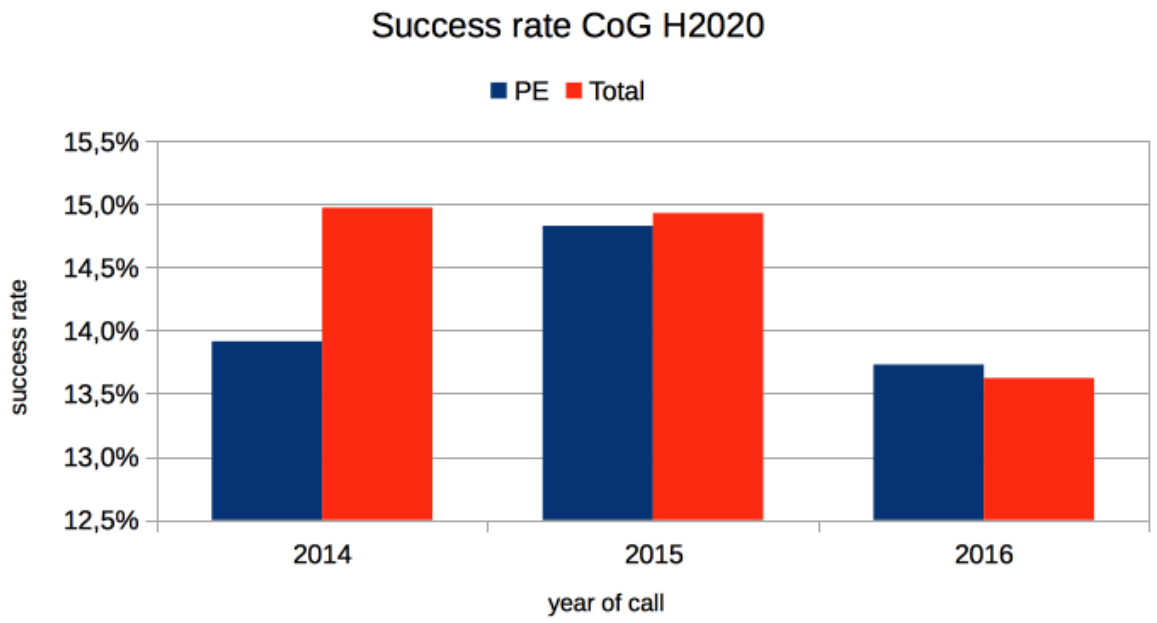
StG all years:

PE	12,5%
Total	12,4%

CoG all years:

PE	14,1%
Total	14,5%



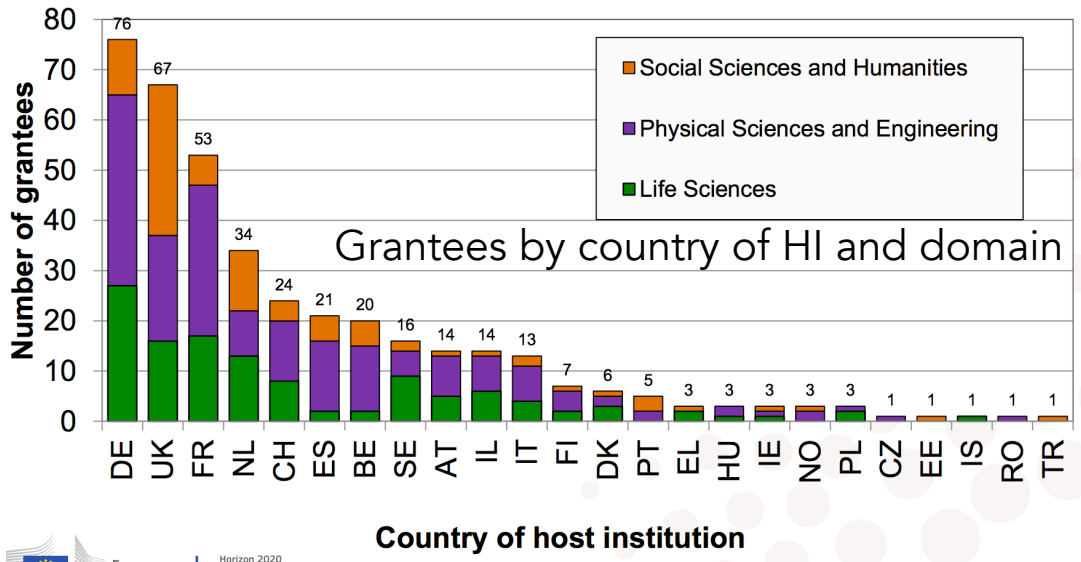


Starting Grant 2016

	Submitted Proposals	Selected Proposals
Life Sciences	869	121
Physical Sciences and Engineering	1288	180
Social Sciences and Humanities	778	89
Total	2935	390

Success rate ~ 13 %

24 countries



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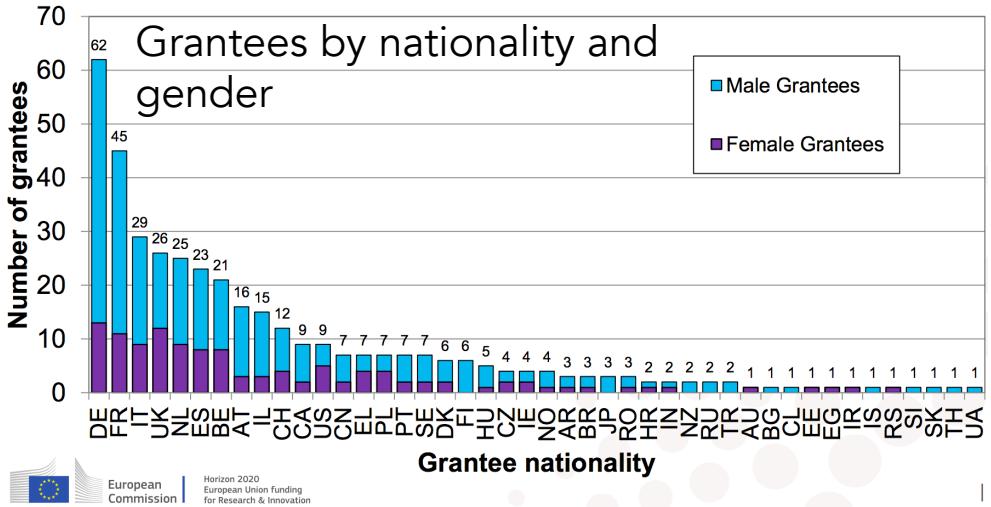
44 nationalities



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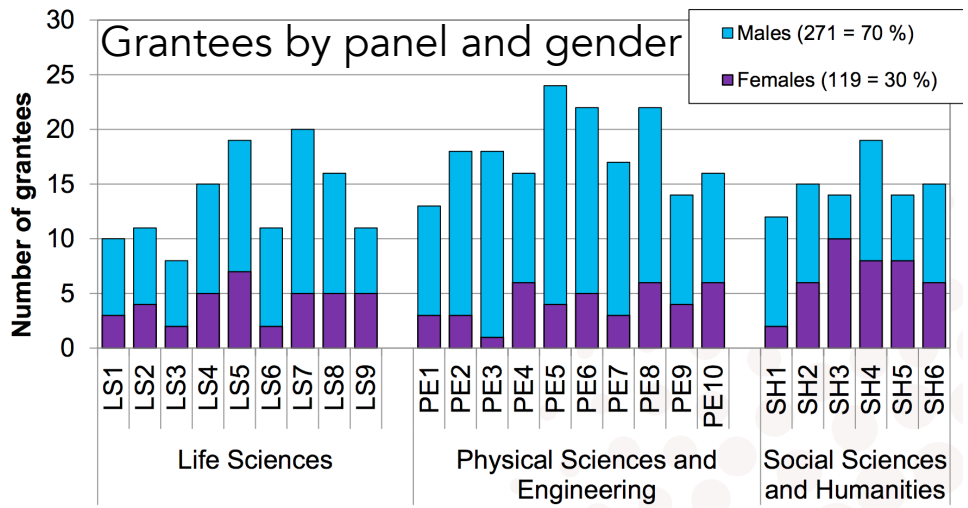

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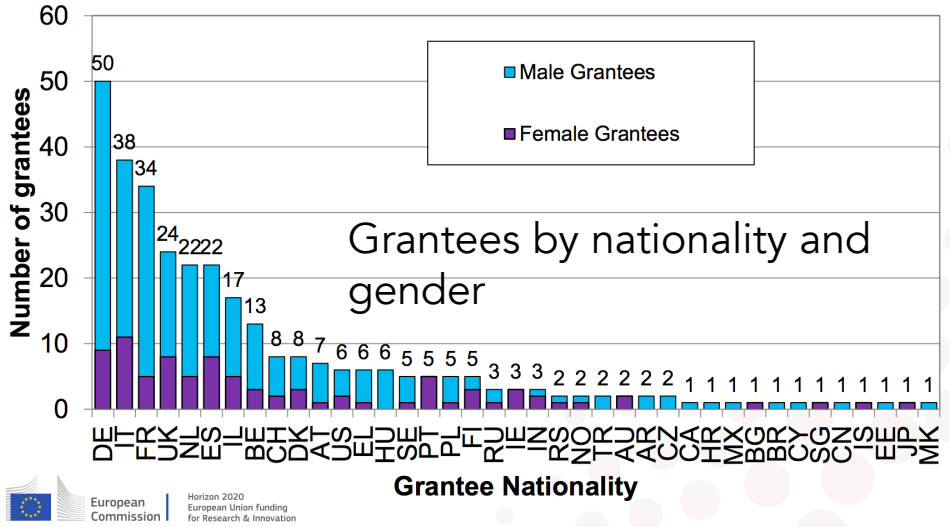
Consolidator Grant 2016

	Submitted Proposals	Selected Proposals
Life Sciences	710	97
Physical Sciences and Engineering	1078	148
Social Sciences and Humanities	517	69
Total	2305	314

Success rate ~ 13.8 %

39 Nationalities



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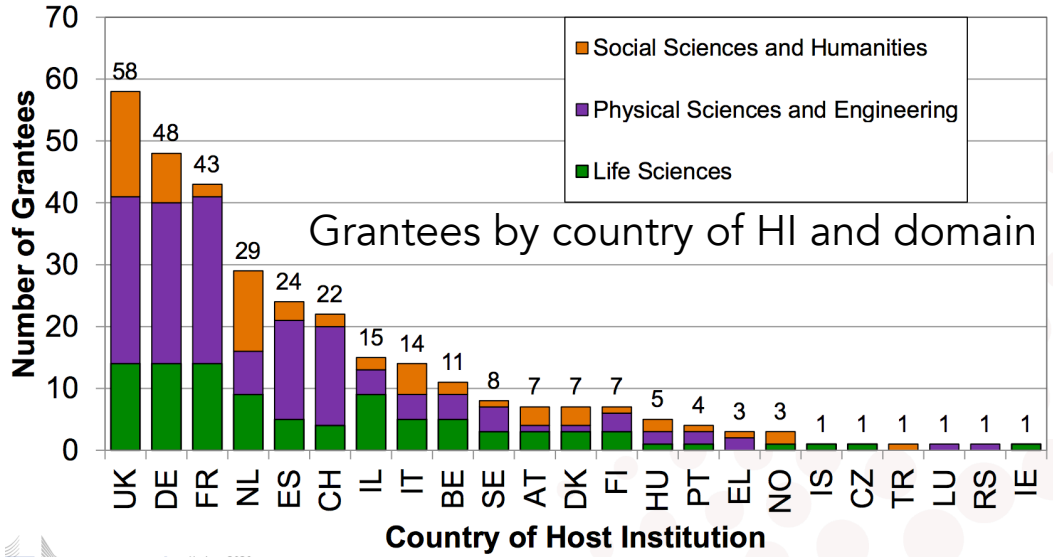
23 countries



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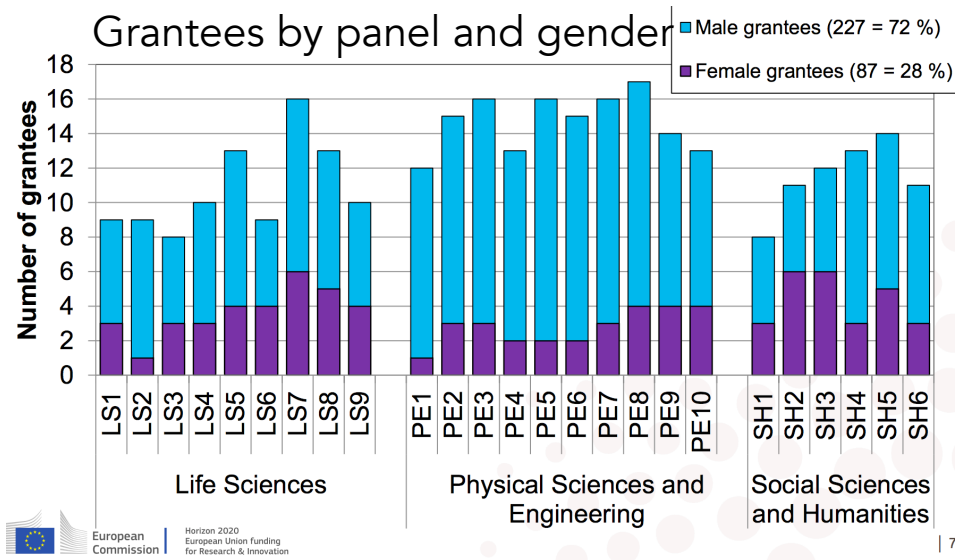

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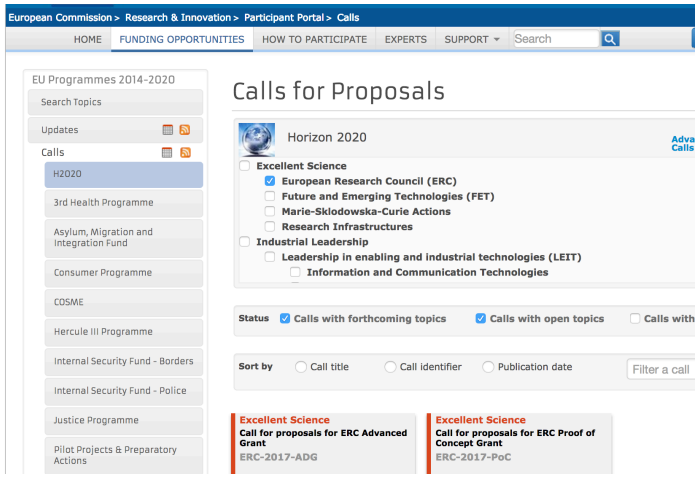
Key features ERC calls

- Excellence as only criteria
- Bottom-up
- All nationalities
- All research areas

Useful documentation

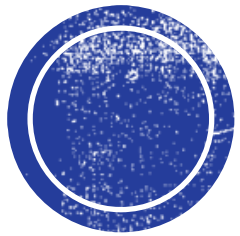
https://erc.europa.eu/



Participant portal

https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC-Work-Programme-2017.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/guides_for_applicants/h2020-guide17-erc-stg-cog_en.pdf



Writing a proposal

Some hints

Before you start

What
- What do you want to do?
- Does it fit with the call?

Why
- Why is your research important?
- Why should YOU be doing this research?

Who
- Are you eligible?
- Who can help?

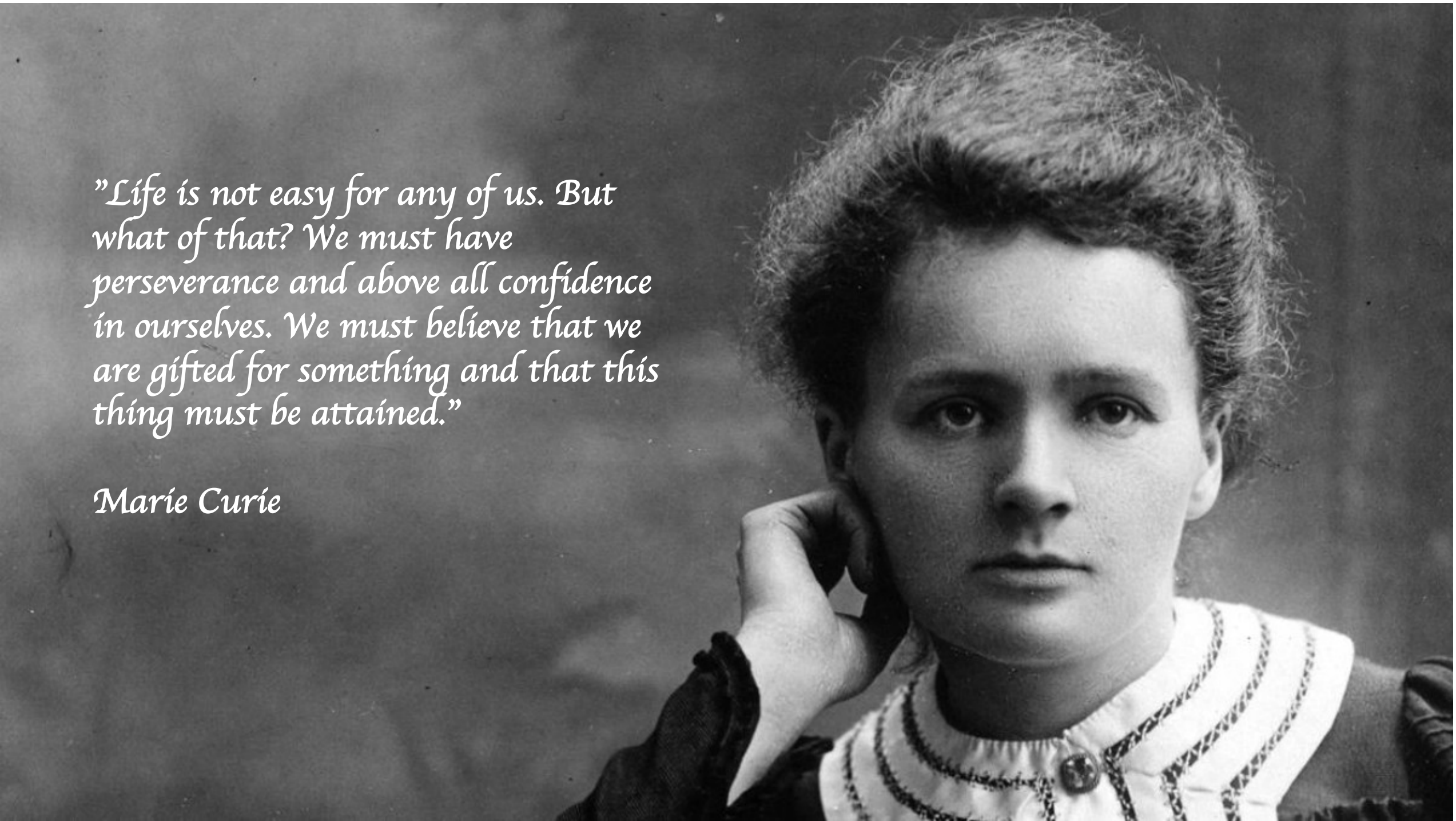
When
- When is the deadline?
- Is now the time for you to participate in the call?

While writing

Study call	Check details	Content
• Aims, objectives	• Start date	• Why/who
• Regulations	• Page limits	• Aims/objectives
	• Spell check	• Methodology
	• Signatures	• Management
	• Appendices	• Dissemination
		• Impact

Even if it seems obvious…

- Register early, get familiar with the system and templates and start filling 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
- Read *Guide for Applicants* and *Work Programme*
- Refer to support staff (from university/research institute, national contact points, …)
- Check already funded projects


”Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained.”
Marie Curie