European Funding Opportunities for Students, Postdocs & Researchers of All Nationalities

Miami, FL, 4-6 May 2015
Content

- EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion initiative
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)
- European Research Council Grants (ERC)
EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion
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.

To promote EURAXESS, the EURAXESS Roadshow will visit 22 countries & 29 cities between 3 March and 30 April.

For live info, dates and locations, join the tour and connect via Facebook and Twitter:

www.facebook.com/EURAXESSOnTour
@EURAXESS_OnTour, #EURAXESS_OnTour
#EU4Jobs
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

- **Main focus**: international mobility and career development of individual researchers

- **Networking tool** for researchers based in North America (US and Canada)

- **Information** on job vacancies and funding opportunities in Europe (MSCA, ERC, etc.)

- **Promotional** activities – events, workshops, seminars, information sessions, career fairs

- **Website, newsletter, social media**

- **First point of contact** before moving to Europe (link to EURAXESS Service Centers)
EURAXESS Science Slam 2015 – 3rd Edition

- Test YOUR Science Communication skills
- Show YOUR research to the World!
- Open to ALL researchers from ALL OVER North America
- 5 finalists selected to go to the finals
- 1st Prize: Free trip to go to Europe
  - Meeting with the European Commission staff
  - Meeting with a European Research Institution of YOUR choice!
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
What are the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions?

A European Union funded programme for structuring researcher training, mobility and career development

Objectives

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

- **Budget 2014-2020: € 6.162 billion**
Who, What and Where?

- **Who**: All levels of research experience from PhD researcher upwards – there are actions for different levels of experience.

- **What**: All areas of research are supported: bottom-up approach

- **Where**: Anywhere: any research performing organisation, public or private worldwide - there are actions for European and international mobility.
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

- Support for two types of **mobility**:
  - **European**: moving from outside Europe into Europe
  - Or moving within Europe
  - **Global**: moving from Europe to a country outside of Europe – NB compulsory return phase of one year (fully funded)
Experience: Support for two 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 research experience* ("post-doc")

*counted from the time when the individual is entitled to embark on a doctoral degree
# 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 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) |
2 ways to be supported:

- Apply for your own fellowship
- or
- Apply to a project
1. Apply for your own fellowship

Directly to the
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
with a host institution
→ Experienced researchers

In possession of a doctoral degree, or have 4 years of full-time research experience at the time of the call deadline
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Individual Fellowships

Individual trans-national **post-doctoral fellowships** for the best and most promising experienced researchers

Two types depending on the mobility of the researcher

Within or into Europe - European Fellowships
Outside Europe - Global Fellowships
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

- **Mobility**: 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 of projects**: 1-2 years

- **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
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

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
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

◦ Call for 2015 OPEN

◦ Opened: 12 March 2015
◦ Closes: 10 September 2015 @ 17:00:00 CET

◦ Budget: €215m
2. Apply to a project

→ Doctoral candidate level

(some post-docs)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Innovative Training Networks (ITN)

• 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
• Fellowships of 3-36 months
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Main Features

• Exposure to the non-academic sector as elementary part of the training

• Joint supervision with business (including SMEs) or other non-ac. partners

• Project of up to 4 years duration and fellowships of 3-36 months

The financial dimension

<table>
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<th>Cost Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Research, networking, training costs</td>
<td>1800 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and indirect costs</td>
<td>1200 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living allowance</td>
<td>3110 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility allowance</td>
<td>600 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance</td>
<td>500 €</td>
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Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

How to apply for a fellowship

• All projects publish their vacancies on the Marie Curie website, EURAXESS Jobs, NatureJobs, etc.

• !!! Check the MSCA website frequently !!!

• Funding levels defined by the MSCA - employment contracts with full social security

• Duration: 3 year PhD training; max 24 months for post docs
2. Apply to a

→ **Cofunded Call**

(doctoral student and post-doc)
How to apply for a doctoral position or a fellowship

• Known calls are always listed on EURAXES, Nature Jobs and of course, on the MSCA Website! !!! Check the MSCA website frequently !!!
  • Future calls will be advertised there also
  • Eligibility depends on the call - consult the documentation carefully
  • The financial dimension: what is the minimum which hosting institutions should pay their COFUND fellows:

The financial dimension

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management costs</th>
<th>325 €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration* costs Early-stage researchers</td>
<td>2597 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration costs Experienced researchers</td>
<td>3675 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*minimum total costs related to the employment of the fellows
European Research Council
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

**Legislation**
- Scientific governance: independent Scientific Council with 22 members; full authority over funding strategy
- Support by the ERC Executive Agency (autonomous)
  - Excellence as the only criterion

**Strategy**
- Support for the individual scientist – no networks!
  - Global peer-review
- No predetermined subjects (bottom-up)
- Support of frontier research in all fields of science and humanities
European Research Council

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
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:
  - Apply for funding independently
  - Manage research and funding project
  - Publish independently as senior author
  - Have access to reasonable space and facilities
- Signs Grant Agreement
- Overhead: 25%
Evaluation of excellent quality at two levels:

- **Excellence of the Research Project**
  - ✔️ Ground-breaking nature
  - ✔️ Potential impact
  - ✔️ Scientific approach

- **Excellence of the Principal Investigator**
  - ✔️ Intellectual capacity
  - ✔️ Creativity
  - ✔️ Commitment

Referees and panels evaluate and score each criterion, and then rank the proposals according to these results.
Main features of the evaluation process

- Goal of the evaluation: select the best frontier research proposals
- Only evaluation criteria: **excellence**
- Method: **peer review**
- Structure: 25 panels distributed in 3 scientific domains (10 Physical Sciences, 9 Life sciences and 6 Social Sciences and Humanities)
- Each panel consists of 1 panel chair and 12-16 panel members
**STEP 1**
Remote assessment by Panel members of section 1 – PI and synopsis

Panel meeting

Proposals retained for step 2

**STEP 2**
Remote assessment by Panel members and reviewers of full proposals

Panel meeting + interview (StG and CoG)

Ranked list of proposals

Feedback to applicants

- Right balance between generalist + specialized review
- Appropriate treatment of interdisciplinary proposals
- Good cost-benefit ratio
ERC achievements and participation of non-ERA nationals

ERC Grantees with a non-ERA Nationality*
ERC StG, CoG and AdG calls 2007-2013

TOTAL number of grantees with non-ERA nationality: 208 StG/CoG and 102 AdG

*) nationality as last declared by the principal investigator
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ERC calls</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Call Opening</th>
<th>Submission Deadline(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starting Grants</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERC-2015-StG</td>
<td>430 M€</td>
<td>7 October 2014</td>
<td>3 February 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consolidator Grants</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<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>7 November 2014</td>
<td>DL1: 5 February 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>DL2: 28 May 2015</td>
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<td>DL3: 1 October 2015</td>
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How to connect with us?

- EURAXESS Links North America
- @euraxess_na
- EURAXESS Links – Internationally Mobile Researchers – (subgroup: EURAXESS Links North America)
- YouTube Channel
- Join our North America Community
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.euussciencetechnology.eu/](http://www.euussciencetechnology.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/Stephanie JANNIN
  - Regional Representatives
  - EURAXESS Links North America
    - northamerica@euraxess.net
    - http://northamerica.euraxess.org