EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL





9 Years of existence





Evaluated ~ 50 000 proposals



- More than **60 nationalities** represented
- Working in > 670 different institutions in 33 countries
- Agreements: US, Korea, Argentina, Japan, China and Mexico



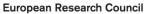
- Funded 5 000 top researchers (~2/3 at early-career stage)
- Funded close to 30 000 team members



- Highly competitive (success rate ~12%)
- Highly recognised by the research community

H2020 (2014-2020)

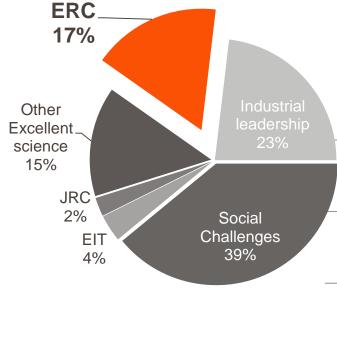




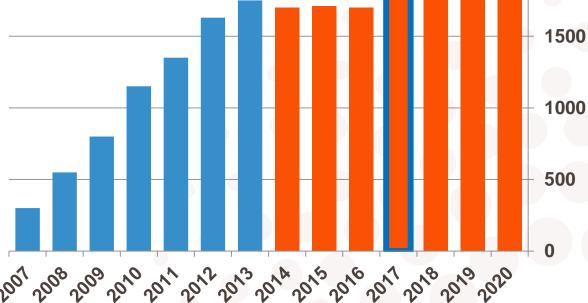
2500

2000

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€13 billion





 "... to support researchers (Principal Investigators) at the stage at which they are starting their own independent research team or programme" "...to support researchers (Principal Investigators) at the stage at which they are consolidating their own independent research team or programme" "... to promote substantial advances in the frontiers of knowledge, and to encourage new productive lines of enquiry and new methods and techniques including unconventional approaches and investigations"

STARTING GRANTS



CONSOLIDATOR GRANTS



ADVANCED GRANTS



PhD acquired 2-7 years

Counting from 1st January Call's year

Extensions to this period are possible

paternity leave, maternity leave, longterm illness, national military service

minimum of 50% time in
Europe (MS + AC)
minimum of 50% working
time on ERC project

PhD acquired 7-12 years

Counting from 1st January Call's year

Extensions to this period are possible

paternity leave, maternity leave, longterm illness, national military service

minimum of 50% time in
Europe (MS + AC)
minimum of 40% working
time on ERC project

Open to all senior scientists

Track-record of <u>significant</u>
research achievements (last 10 years, extension in case of career breaks possible)

minimum of 50% time in
Europe (MS + AC)
minimum of 30% working
time on ERC project





ADVANCED GRANTS





Possible requested amount

- →€2.5M for 5 years
- → extra €1M
 - "start-up" costs PI moving from outside EU+AC
 - purchase of major equipment
 - access to large facilities

100% eligible direct costs (salaries, equipment, etc.)



ADVANCED GRANTS





Profile

- → Active researchers (any age, nationality, and current place of work)
- Track-record of <u>significant research achievements</u> (last 10 years, extension in case of career breaks possible)
- → Exceptional leaders in terms of the originality and significance of their research contribution



ERC PANEL STRUCTURE

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 European European Union funding

Commission

for Research & Innovation

Sciences

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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 Universe Sciences

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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



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Submission to Panels



- Proposals are submitted to a Targeted Panel (PI's choice)
 - → Can flag one "Secondary Review Panel"
- Applicant chooses his/her panel, this panel is "responsible" and takes ownership for the evaluation of the particular proposal
- Switching proposals between panels not possible unless clear mistake on part of applicant, or due to the necessary expertise being available in a different panel
- But: In case of cross-panel or cross-domain proposals, evaluation by members of other panels possible



Online Submission Proposal structure





Part B1 (submitted as pdf)

Evaluated in Step 1 & Step 2

Text box - Cross-panel explanation

a – Extended synopsis 5 pages

b – Curriculum vitae 2 pages

c - Track-record 2 pages

Appendix – Funding ID

Part B2 (submitted as pdf)

Not evaluated in Step 1 (Step 2 only!!)

Scientific proposal 15 pages

a – State-of-the-art and objectives

b – Methodology

c – Resources

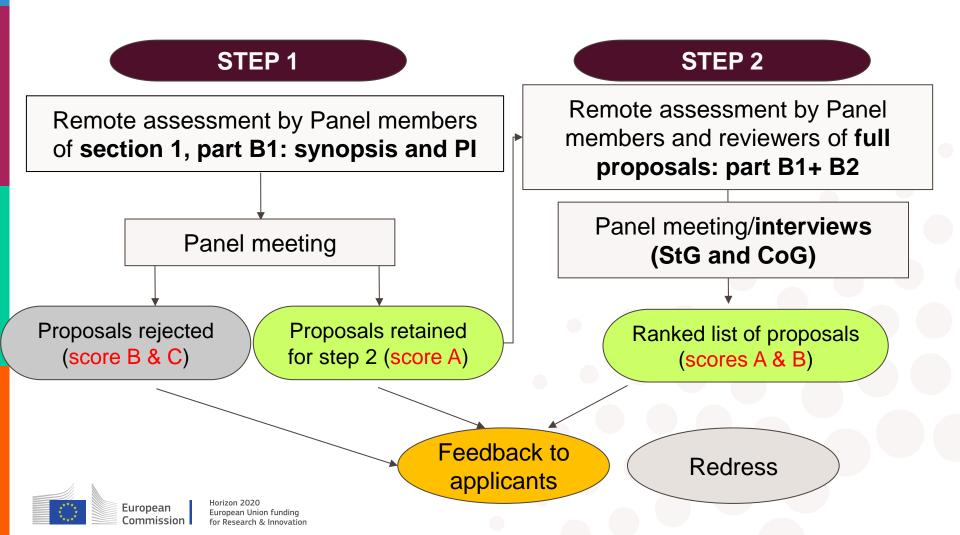
Guidelines and Recommendations in the 2016 "Information for Applicants"



How are the proposals evaluated?







Resubmission rules*



Restrictions on submitting proposals to future ERC calls based on the outcome of the evaluation.

Score	STEP 1	STEP 2
Α	May submit proposal to Call 2017	
В	May NOT submit proposal to Call 2017	May submit proposal to Call 2017
С	May NOT submit proposal to Call 2017 nor 2018	36

Applicants need to check the restrictions in place for each call!



PROPOSAL REVIEWING





~14 members per panel

Each proposal gets about

- 3-4 reviews at Step 1 (remote work)
- 5-6 reviews at Step 2 (remote work)

Panel members are asked to familiarise with

ALL proposals remotely

All decisions are made as a panel

Submission of Proposals Differences in Part B1 and Part B2



In Step 1: **Panel members** (generalists and with multidisciplinary approaches) see only **Part B1** of your proposal: Prepare it accordingly!

- Pay attention to the ground-breaking nature of the research project no incremental research. State-of-the-art is not enough. Think big!
- Know your competitors what is the state of play and why is your idea and scientific approach outstanding?
- Only the extended Synopsis is read at Step 1: concise and clear presentation is crucial (evaluators are not necessarily all experts in the field)
- Outline of the methodological approach (feasibility)
- Show your scientific independence in your CV (model CV provided in the part B1 template)
- Funding ID to be filled in



Submission of Proposals Differences in Part B1 and Part B2



In Step 2: Both Part B1 and B2 are sent to specialists around the world (specialised external referees)

- Do not just repeat the synopsis
- Provide sufficient detail on methodology, work plan, etc. (15 pages)
- Check coherency of figures, justify requested resources
- Explain involvement of team members
- Provide alternative strategies to mitigate risk



Proposal budget considerations



- Budget analysis carried out in Step 2 evaluation (meeting)
- Panels assess that resources requested are <u>reasonable</u> and <u>well-justified</u>
- Panels to recommend a <u>final maximum budget</u> based on the resources allocated/ removed
- Panels do not "micro-manage" project finances
- Awards made on a "take-it-or-leave-it" basis: no negotiations

Questions to ask yourself as an applicant



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- Am I internationally competitive as a researcher at my career stage and in my discipline?
- Did I already obtain since the beginning of my career some significant research achievements/ground-breaking advances
- Am I able to work independently, and to manage a 5-year project with a substantial budget?
- Why is my proposed project important?
- Does it promise to go substantially beyond the state of the art?
- Why am I the best/only person to carry it out?
- Is it timely? (Why wasn't it done in the past? Is it feasible now?)
- What's the risk? Is it justified by a substantial potential gain? Do I have a plan for managing the risk?



Typical reasons for rejection



Principal investigator

- Insufficient track-record
- Insufficient (potential for) independence
- Insufficient experience in leading projects

Proposed project

- Scope: Too narrow ← → too broad/unfocussed
- Incremental research
- Work plan not detailed enough/unclear



Submission of Proposals

Commission

for Research & Innovation

ERC Work Programme 2016: Calendar



ERC calls	Submission Deadlines	Budget Million EUR (estimated grants)
Starting Grants ERC-2016-StG	Closed. Next deadline autumn 2016	tba
Consolidator Grants ERC-2016-CoG	Closed. Next deadline winter 2017	tba
Advanced Grants ERC-2016-AdG	1 September 2016	540 (235)
Proof of Concept Grants ERC-2016-PoC European European Union funding	16 February 2016 26 May 2016 4 October 2016	20 (130)

BE UP to date!



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General Information



European Research Council

Supporting top researchers
from anywhere in the world



- ERC Website
- Guide for Applicants for ERC
- ERC Work Programme 2016
- Funded Projects

Menu allows to search ERC projects by Funding Scheme, Call year and Country of Host Institution

Country of Host Institution

Call year and Clear all Clear all Information disp

ERC Funded Projects

Browse ERC projects by
Funding Scheme
Call year
Country of Host Institution

Keywords

The system is currently being updated.
We are aware that some projects may not appear and we are working on a solution.

The ERC operates according to an investigation-driven, or "bottom-up", approach, allowing researchers to identify new opportunities in any field of research. Accordingly the portfolio of ERC funded projects spans a wide range of topics and research questions.

Since 2007, more than 3,400 projects have been selected to receive ERC funding throughout the EU Member States and the FP? Describe accided to a specific projects. Would be supported to the topics of the spans and the topic projects in the database for this reason, the lobal name of or projects in the database may defer how the figured with through also projects selected for funding vinous grant agreements have been sepred, appear in the database for this reason, the lobal name of or projects in the database and a greeners have not been signed year.

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ERC Work
Programme
2016



European Research Council

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(European Commission C(2015) 5086 of 28 July 2015)

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