

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions A success story of 20 years



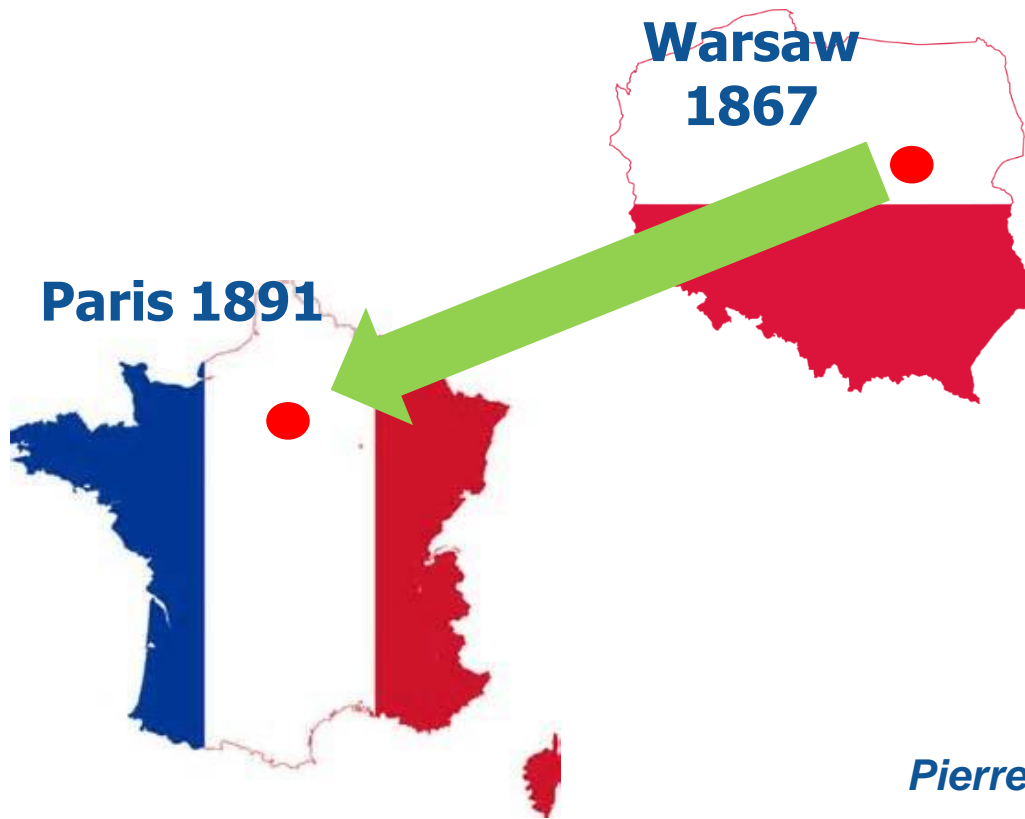
Maria Tsivertara
Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport
and Culture

**National Documentation Centre,
Athens - 14 March 2017**

7 November 1867

**What if
Maria Salomea Skłodowska
was not born
on 7 November 1867
in Warsaw in Poland?**

Marie Curie: the beginning...



Pierre and Marie Curie honeymoon, 1895

Marie Curie: an excellent researcher

June 1903

Ph.D. at the Sorbonne

1903

Nobel Prize in Physics

1911

Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Much more people would have died during the World War I

World War I, 1914 – 1918



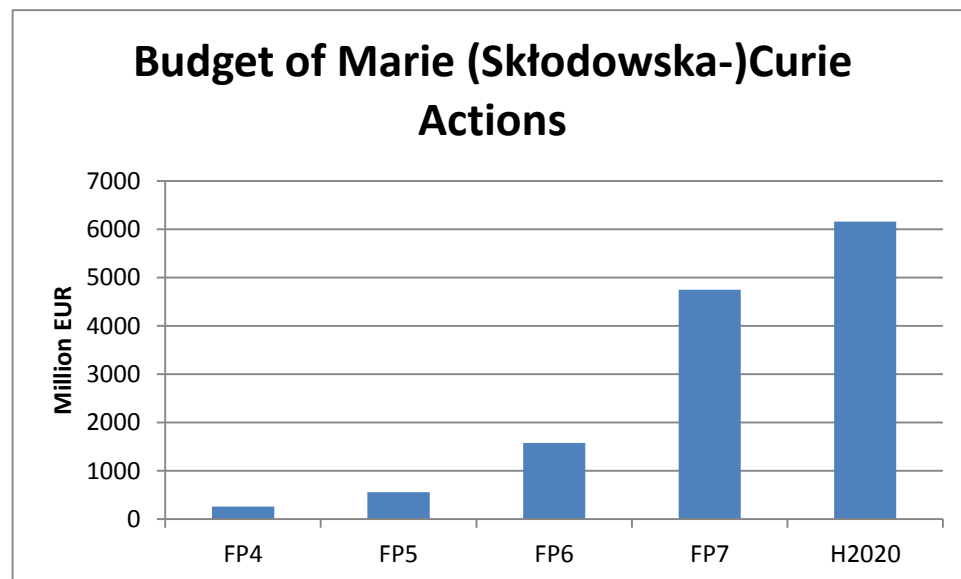
Marie Curie set up radiology medical units near battle lines to allow X-rays to be taken of wounded soldiers. Over one million injured soldiers had passed through her radiology units.

Marie Curie actions

The predecessors and outcomes of the past

The history of the MC actions

- **FP4 (1994-1998):** "Stimulation of the training and mobility of researchers" – only a mobility grant scheme for PhD-holders under 35
- **FP5 (1998-2002):**
 - "Host-driven actions" introduced
- **FP6 (2002-2006):**
 - Third Country nationals and hosts can take part
 - No limit age
- **FP7 (2007-2013):**
 - New focus on attractive working conditions and inter-sectoral mobility



Outcomes of the FP7 2007-13 MCA

- MCA fellows were of 140 different **nationalities**. 24% were from countries outside the EU Member States or FP7 Associated Countries.
- 21% of participants in Initial Training Networks were from the **private sector**.
- 95% of MCA fellows had **employment** positions two years after the end of their fellowship.
- 37% of MCA fellows were **women**, whereas on average 33% of EU researchers were female.
- Evidence that participating organisations improved their practices in respect of **recruitment and working conditions**.

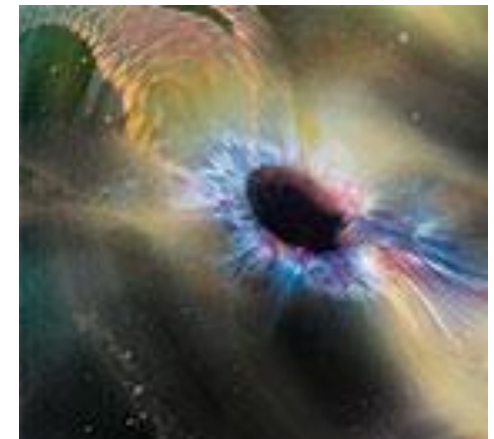
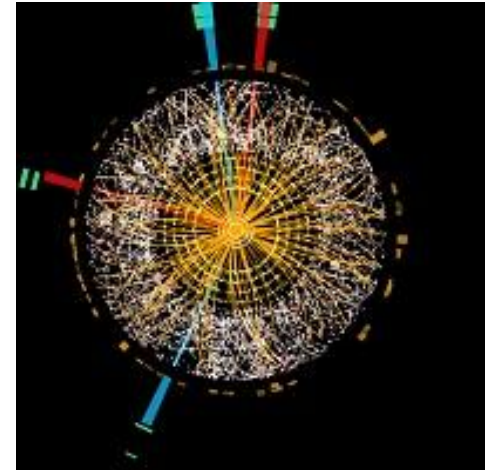


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Fellows at the forefront of science

- **Stefan W. Hell**, one of the winners of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry 2014 was awarded an MCA postdoctoral Individual Fellowship in 1996: *'a critical moment in my career'*.
- 30 scientists supported by the FP7 MCA were involved in the 2012 **discovery of the Higgs Boson at CERN**.
- **The 2016 discovery of gravitational waves** brought a new way to observe some of the darkest events in our universe. An FP7 MCA project contributed to the breakthrough with 14 early-stage researchers, coordinated by the European Gravitational Observatory.



Academy Award (Oscar) 2007 dedicated to a FP6 MC project

FP6 Marie Curie project:
*Transfer of Knowledge
Industry-Academia Strategic
Partnership*



The MSCA today

Celebrating our...



A celebratory banner for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. On the left is a silhouette of Marie Skłodowska-Curie. The background is orange with various scientific icons: a DNA helix, an atom, a chemical structure, a microscope, a test tube, a lightbulb, a gear, and a pair of glasses. The text '100 000' is in large white numbers, and 'FELLOWS!' is in yellow. Below it, 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions' is in white and 'Taking your research further!' is in yellow. The European Commission logo is in the bottom left corner of the banner.

**100 000
FELLOWS!**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Taking your research further!

 European Commission

The Greek 100000th fellow

Ioannis Tsanakas from Greece going to Belgium



Project name: PVMINDS - Bottom-up PV module energy yield and integrated reliability model for site-specific design optimization

Here comes the sun... but is it enough?

- Solar panels are a mature technology, powering houses and even feeding energy back to grids all over the world. This sustainable, clean source of power is key to hitting renewable energy targets in the EU and elsewhere. But there is a problem... **reliability**. Not enough is known about the predictability of photovoltaic (PV) yield, how much energy you get from the panels, and subsequent electricity cost reduction. The latest models cannot predict long-term performance taking into consideration factors such as degradation and failure rates.
- Greek scientist Ioannis Tsanakas, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow in Belgium, is leading research within the EU PVMINDS project. He plans to develop the first bottom-up reliability model for selected PV failure/degradation modes. From that, he intends to develop an innovative protocol on designing for reliability. In Belgium, Ioannis is able to apply his PV field diagnostics and reliability skills, and to use advanced tools for modelling energy yields. He also benefits from multidisciplinary training in a respected industrial research centre.



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Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

The three pillars of H2020

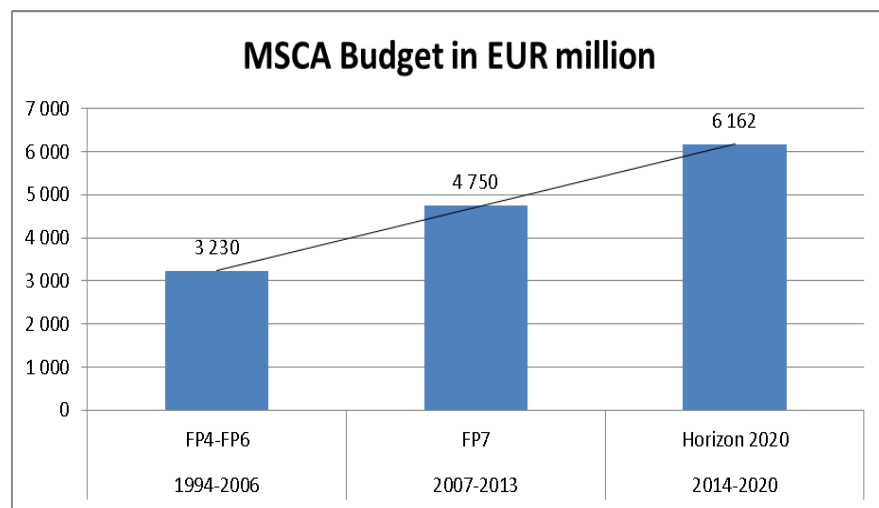


MSCA objective:

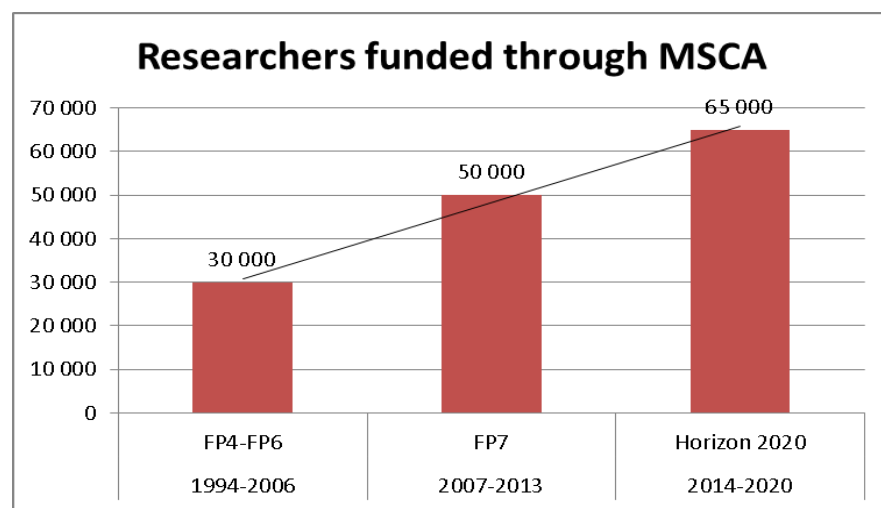
ensure optimum development and dynamic use of Europe's intellectual capital in order to generate new skills, knowledge and innovation

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

The European Union's main programme for **researcher training and career development through mobility**.



2017: EUR 843 million



2017: 10 200 researchers

**€ 6.16 billion
in 2014-2020**



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KEY ADVANTAGES of MSCA

MSCA Funding schemes

Individual Fellowships	IF experienced Researchers 'post-Doc'	Support for experienced researchers to undertake international and inter-sector mobility, incl. career restart and reintegration
Innovative Training Networks	ITN early-stage Researchers 'pre-Doc'	Doctoral and initial training: European Training Networks, European Industrial Doctorates, European Joint Doctorates
Co-funding of programmes	COFUND 'pre-Doc' or 'post-Doc'	Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes: - doctoral programmes (ESR) - fellowship programmes (ER)
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange	RISE 'pre-Doc' or 'post-Doc'	International and inter-sector cooperation through the exchange of staff (scientific, administrative and technical)

MSCA – Main features

- **Mobility** as the key requirement - funding on condition participants move from one country to another;
- **Funding excellent research in any field**, from fundamental research up to market take-up and innovation services;
- Entirely **bottom-up**;
- Participation of **non-academic sector** strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs;
- Promoting **business-academia collaborations**;
- Open to researchers of all **nationalities, ages** and **career stages**;
- Promotion of **attractive working** and **employment conditions**;
- Particular attention to **equality of opportunities**.

Who can participate?

Academia

Public or private **Higher Education Institutions**
awarding academic degrees

Public or private **non-profit research organisations**

International **European interest** organisations

Universities

Non-profit
research
institutes

IEIOs

Business and non-academia

Broad definition:

Any socio-economic actor not
included in the academic
sector definition

Industry

SMEs

Other socio-
economic
actors



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What can be funded?

1) Costs of researchers and seconded staff

Living allowance or Top-up allowance

Mobility allowance

Family allowance

2) Organisational costs

Research, networking and training costs

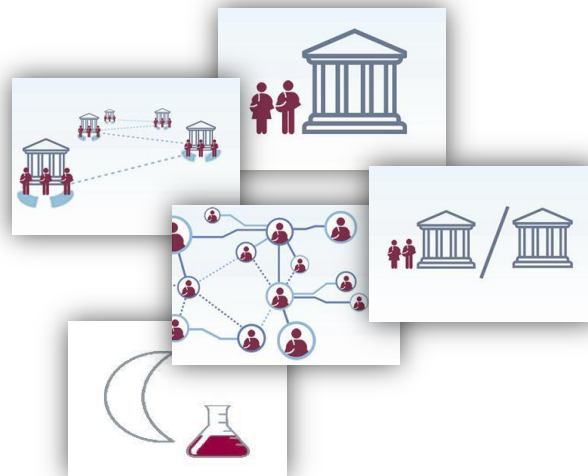
Management and indirect costs

MSC actions – Financial Overview

RISE	Research, networking, training costs	1800 €	Top-up allowance	2000 €
	Management and indirect costs	700 €		
ITN	Research, networking, training costs	1800 €	Living allowance*	3110 €
	Management and indirect costs	1200 €	Mobility allowance	600 €
			Family allowance	500 €
IF	Research, networking, training costs	800 €	Living allowance*	4650 €
	Management and indirect costs	500 €	Mobility allowance	600 €
			Family allowance	500 €
COFUND	Management costs	325 €	Living allowance Early-stage researchers	1855 €
			Living allowance Experienced researchers	2625 €

* The living allowance base rate is multiplied by Country Correction Coefficient – for Greece 92,7%

Which MSCA is made for you?



As an individual researcher

Depends on research **experience**

Support for 2 categories of researchers:

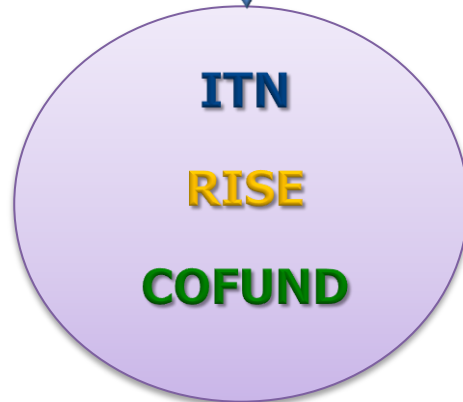
Early Stage Researcher: Less than 4 years of research experience*, and without a doctoral degree ('pre-doc')

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

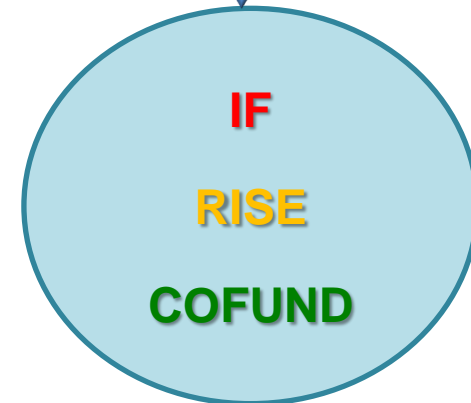
*counted from the time when the researcher is entitled to embark on a doctoral degree

WHICH MSCA should you chose?

Early-stage Researchers (ESR)



Experienced Researchers (ER)



As an organisation

recruit/host **one or several ESR**
to lead a **mid-term**
research project



Within a network

In partnership with a
doctoral programme



ITN

COFUND

recruit/host an **ER** to lead a
short/mid-term research
project



On your own

In partnership with a
fellowship programme



IF

COFUND

exchange
knowledge/expertise with
partners



Via exchange of
existing staff
(ESR, ER, managerial,
technical, administrative)



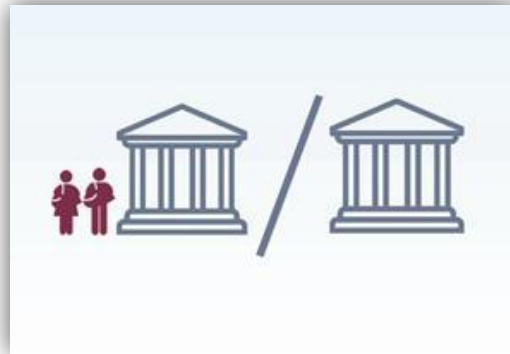
RISE



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MSCA Individual Fellowships



IF - Individual Fellowships

Opportunities



Organisations

- Be a **beneficiary** and recruit and supervise the researcher during the action
→ compulsory: beneficiary from MS or AC
 - Be a **partner organisation** and host the researcher during **secondments** and provide additional training
- => Attract researchers to your country



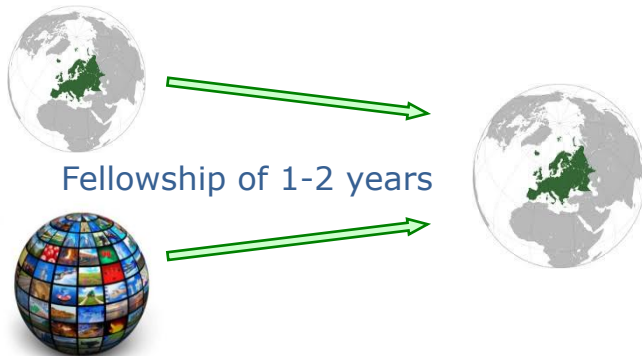
Researchers

- Researchers of all ages and nationalities are eligible to apply for IF and receive funding

IF - Individual Fellowships

For fellows coming to or moving within MS/AC

European Fellowships



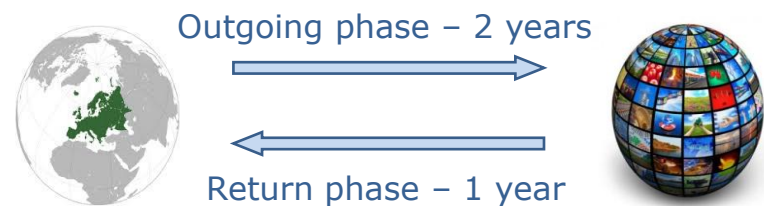
NEW! Society and Enterprise Panel

Reintegration Panel

Career Restart Panel

For fellows from MS/AC going to Third countries and returning

Global Fellowships



IF Reintegration Panel

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

- Researchers must be nationals or long-term residents of **EU or Associated Countries**
 - **Long term resident:** at least 5 consecutive years of research activity in one or more EU Member State or 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** from a Third Country to the European beneficiary

IF Society and Enterprise Panel

- most requirements common to other European Fellowships
- beneficiary only from **non-academic sector** (e.g. business, civil society, government body)
- **mobility rule** = not more than 3 years in the last 5 years in the country of the beneficiary
- dedicated budget of **10 EUR million** in 2016
- Only one successful proposal from Greece (Bank of Greece)

IF Career Restart Panel

- Multidisciplinary panel to provide financial support to individual researchers who wish to resume research in Europe after a career break (e.g. after parental leave, working outside research, etc.).
- For **refugees** covered by the 1951 Refugee Convention (Geneva Convention), the refugee procedure (i.e. before refugee status is conferred) will not be counted as 'period of residence/activity in the country of the beneficiary'. This is regardless of whether he/she was active in research at that time.
- The experienced researcher must have undertaken a **career break in research**, i.e. he/she **must not have been active in research** for at least 12 months immediately prior to the deadline for submission of proposals (corresponding to the period 15 September 2015 to 14 September 2016).

Forthcoming IF call

Opens: 11 April 2017

Closes: 14 September 2017 @ 17:00:00
Brussels time

Budget: EUR 248 in 2017

MSCA Innovative Training Networks



ITN - Innovative Training Networks

- Train a new generation of **early-stage researchers ('pre-doc')** and provide them with enhanced career perspectives in both sectors
- Raise excellence and structure **research and doctoral training**
- **Trigger cooperation** and exchange of best practice among participants



What?

Support to competitively selected joint research training and/or doctoral programmes implemented by partnerships of academic and non-academic organisations under which **early stage researchers of any nationality** are recruited.

Budget: EUR 430 million in 2017 (EID: 28 Mio, EJD 32 Mio)

ITN – 3 modes of implementation

ETN - European Training Networks

- at least **3 beneficiaries** independent from each other located in **3 different EU MS** or **AC**. Above this minimum any country can participate.
- All beneficiaries must recruit and host at least 1 researcher.

EID - European Industrial Doctorates

- at least **2 independent beneficiaries** located in **2 different MS** or **AC**;
- at least **one beneficiary** must be entitled to **award doctoral degrees** and at least **one beneficiary** must come from the **non-academic sector**, primarily enterprise;
- each researcher - enrolled in a doctoral programme and spends **at least 50%** in the non-academic sector in another country;
- The **joint supervision** of fellows by supervisors from each sector is **mandatory**.

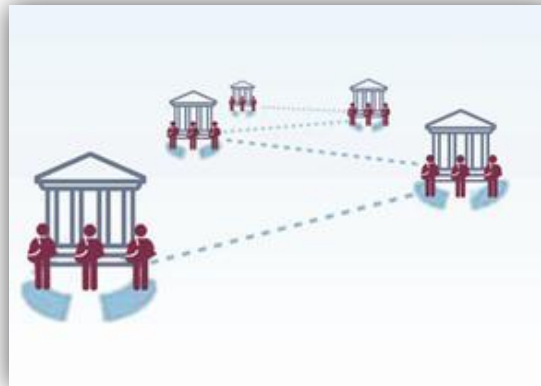
EJD - European Joint Doctorates

- at least **3 beneficiaries** independent from each other located in **3 different EU MS** or **AC** which are entitled to award doctoral degrees;
- creation of **joint doctoral programmes**, leading to the delivery of joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees.

Forthcoming ITN call

**Opening and closing dates and the
budget are under discussion
(preparation of the 2018-2020 Work
Programme)**

MSCA - Research and Innovation Staff Exchange



Current RISE call

Opened: 1 December 2016

Closes: 5 April 2017 @ 17:00:00 Brussels
time

Budget: EUR 80 in 2017

RISE - Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

- International and inter-sector **transfer of knowledge** and sharing of ideas and of R&I culture
- Common **research and innovation project** as the basis of collaboration



What?

Support is provided for the development of partnerships in the form of joint research and innovation activities between the participants implemented through secondments of research and innovation staff ("exchanges").

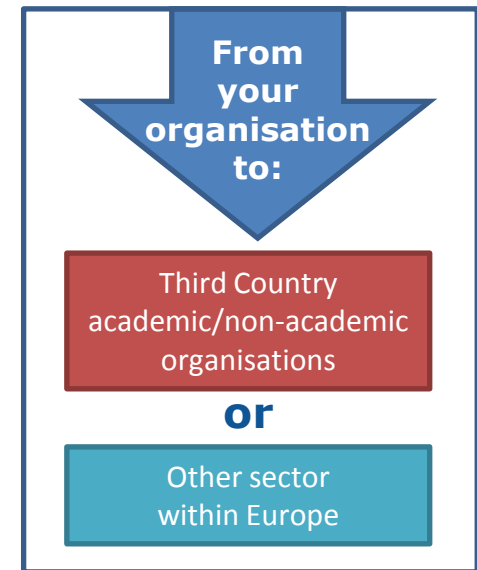
Budget: EUR 80 million in 2017

RISE - Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

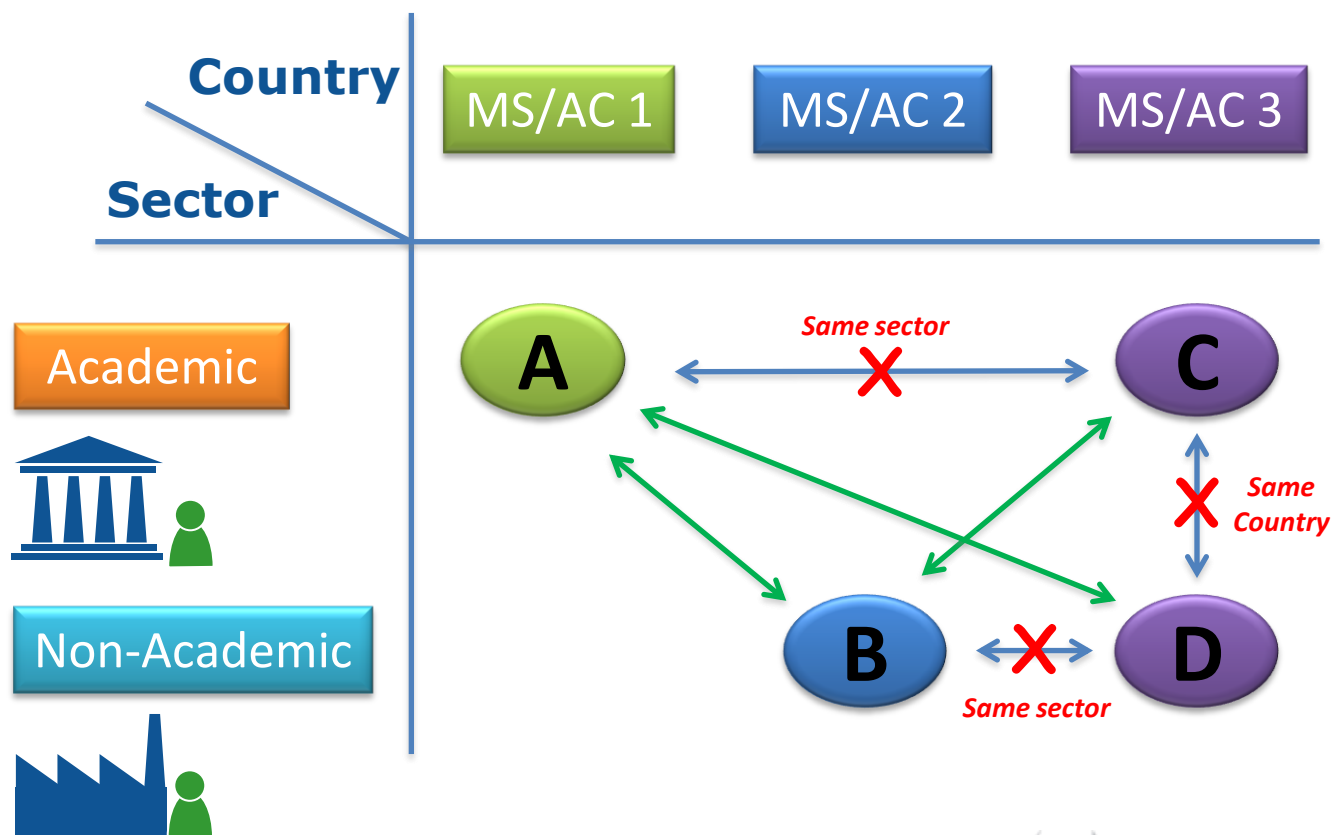
- **Beneficiaries:** only legal entities that are established in **EU MS or AC**, sign the Grant Agreement
- **Eligible staff – early-stage researchers, experienced researchers, administrative, managerial and technical staff** of **any nationality** supporting the research and innovation activities of the project;
- Secondments are not subject to a mobility rule;
- **Staff member** – at least 6 months at the sending institution before first secondment;
- Secondments from **1 to 12 months**, followed by reintegration into the sending institution;
- Staff member unit cost is **a top-up allowance**, not subject to country correction coefficient;
- EU contribution maximum **540** person-months

RISE – Eligibility Conditions

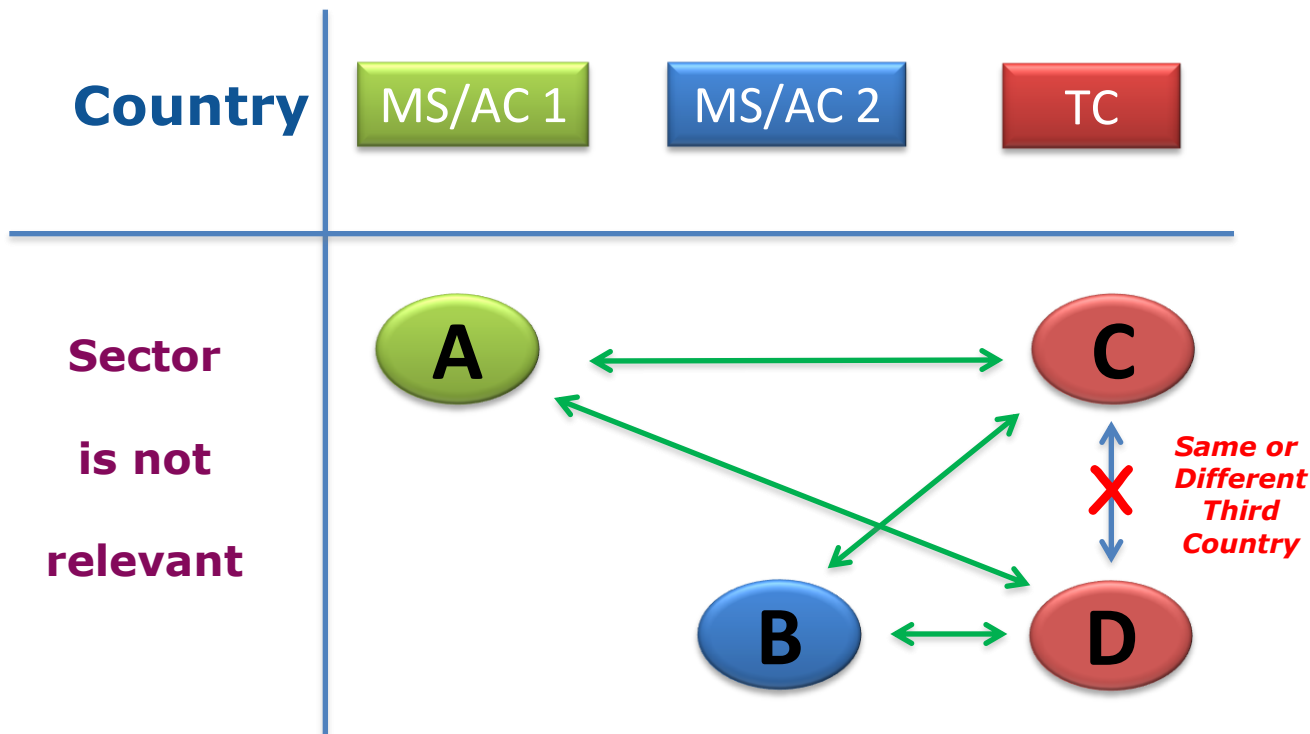
- At least **3 independent participants** in 3 different countries
(of which at least 2 participants from **2 different MS/AC**)
- If **all in MS/AC**: at least 1 academic and 1 non-academic



Examples: Intra-European Exchanges



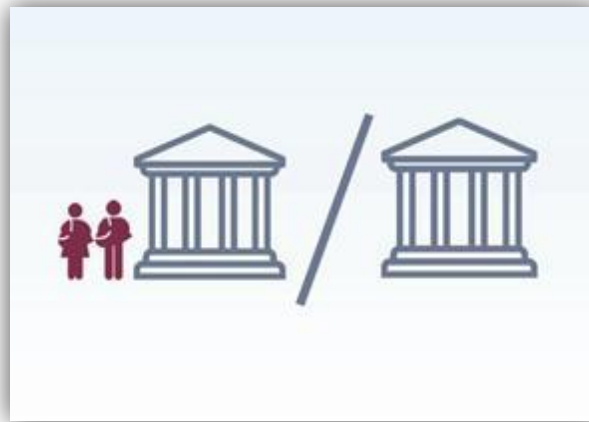
Examples: Europe-Third Countries Exchanges



Secondments from a TC to a MS/AC are not always eligible for EU funding but all of them must be described in the proposal.



MSCA - Co-funding new or existing regional, national, and international programmes



COFUND

- Co-funding new or existing regional, national, and international doctoral or fellowships programmes.
- COFUND takes the form of **Doctoral programmes** or **Fellowship programmes**
- The **doctoral ('pre-doc')** and **'post-doc'** (fellowships) **positions** in COFUND similar to ITN and respectively to IF
- Employment **contracts** with full social security coverage
- EU contribution to co-fund living allowances for researchers and management costs
- **Minimum** living allowance fixed in the Work Programme; no country correction coefficient applies
- Maximum **€ 10 Million per beneficiary** per call

COFUND

Opportunities

- **Mono-beneficiary located in MS or AC:** any organisation (academic or non-academic) funding and/or managing doctoral or post-doctoral programmes which can recruit, supervise, host or train researchers during the action
- Or participate as a **Partner organisation**
- **Host researchers** other than only nationals or long-term residents of a MS or AC
- **As a researcher,** benefit from a broader range of host countries during the outgoing phase (with now Third countries also included as possible hosts)

Forthcoming COFUND call

Opens: 5 April 2017

Closes: 28 September 2017 @ 17:00:00
Brussels time

Budget: EUR 80 million in 2017
(EUR 30 million to Doctoral Programmes)

The European Researchers' Night (NIGHT) support action



The European Researchers' Night (NIGHT)

Where fun meets science!

- A European wide public and media event to bring researchers closer to the general public, to increase awareness of research and innovation activities and stimulate interest in research careers, especially amongst young people;
- NIGHT takes place each year typically on the last Friday of September;
- Funding covers expenses linked to the organisation of a research outreach event (preparations and publicity, the event itself and assessment of its impact);
- Participants can be **any legal entity (academic or non-academic organisation) from EU MS or AC**.



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MSCA 2016-2017 Calls

Funding scheme	Call deadlines	Budget
ITN	15/10/2015 – 12/01/2016 15/09/2016 – 10/01/2017	EUR 370.00 million EUR 430.00 million
IF	12/04/2016 – 14/09/2016 11/04/2017 – 14/09/2017	EUR 218.50 million EUR 248.00 million
RISE	08/12/2015 – 28/04/2016 01/12/2016 – 05/04/2017	EUR 80.00 million EUR 80.00 million
COFUND	14/04/2016 – 29/09/2016 05/04/2017 – 28/09/2017	EUR 80.00 million EUR 80.00 million
NIGHT	15/10/2015 – 13/01/2016	EUR 8.00 million

Greece in MSCA

Fellows by nationality so far

		MSCA-COFUND	MSCA-IF	MSCA-ITN	MSCA-RISE	Sum:
IT	Italy	59	394	525	455	1433
ES	Spain	30	412	267	268	977
DE	Germany	28	220	237	205	690
FR	France	16	234	144	162	556
EL	Greece	4	95	163	187	449
UK	United Kingdom	10	152	72	169	403
IN	India	23	108	229	14	374
CN	China (People's Republic of)	19	111	119	85	334
PT	Portugal	7	75	146	96	324
PL	Poland	28	74	85	90	277

Success rate

Ranking (among MS):

Success rate of EL applicants* : 12.46 % MS average: 13.94 %

Place	Ranking	EL		MS
12	No of applicants	2 171	2,34 %	92 730
12	EU contribution share (EUR million)	37.58	1,83 %	2 054.21
12	No of Participations of EL organisations	207	2,10 %	9 877

* Success rate is determined by dividing the number of successful organisation participations to the number of eligible applying organisations.

Top collaborations

Top collaborative links with EL*

Country	Number of Collaborations
UK - United Kingdom	148
DE - Germany	132
IT - Italy	120
FR - France	109
ES - Spain	105

* A collaborative link is assumed to exist between each pair of participants in each contract. The number of collaborative links created by a project is calculated in the following way: When there are m participants from one country and p from another country in a project, the number of collaborative links created between the two countries as a result of the project is assumed to be $m \cdot p$.

EL participations

Top EL participating organisations in terms of EU contribution (in EUR million)

Name	EU Contribution
FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY HELLAS	5.64
ETHNIKO KAI KAPODISTRIAKO PANEPISTIMIO ATHINON	4.53
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS - NTUA	2.89
PANEPISTIMIO PATRON	2.21
ARISTOTELIO PANEPISTIMIO THESSALONIKIS	1.74

Top EL participating organisations in terms of number of participations

Name	Number of participations
FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY HELLAS	20
ETHNIKO KAI KAPODISTRIAKO PANEPISTIMIO ATHINON	13
PANEPISTIMIO PATRON	11
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS - NTUA	10
NATIONAL CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH "DEMOKRITOS"	9

Private sector top participations

Top EL private for profit entities participations

Name	Number of participations
CHRISTOS PAPADOPOULOS & SIA O.E.	3
SINGULARLOGIC ANONYMI ETAIREIA PLIROFORIAKON SYSTIMATON KAI EFARMOGON PLIROFORIKIS	2
MILITOS SYMVOULEUTIKI A.E.	2
PROTATOUANS - ETAIREIA EREYNAS VIOTECHNOLOGIAS MONOPROSOPI ETAIREIA PERIORISMENIS EYTHINIS	2
ENOSIS MASTICHOPARAGOGON CHIOU	2

* All participants, excl. Partner Organisations in ITN and COFUND

After SMEs, the Seal of Excellence now also for Teaming Phase 2 and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

- On 23 November **Carlos Moedas**, the Commissioner for Research & Innovation, announced the expansion of the Seal of Excellence to **Teaming Phase 2** in Horizon 2020. More good news was announced during the 20th anniversary celebrations of the **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** by **Tibor Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport. MSCA proposals which passed the quality threshold and missed out on funding, will now also receive the Seal of Excellence certificate! This quality label will assist these proposals in the path to finding alternative funding.
- For the 2016 call **19** proposals with Greek host institutions would receive the seal of excellence by the Commission. 12 fellows are Greeks and 7 other nationalities.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

The future

Next step: **adoption** of the 2018-2020 WP expected in October 2017

- **Possible Impact** on ITN 2018 call opening and deadline
- **Part-time** option for ER in IF on pilot basis
- **European Joint Doctorates**: at least 2/3 of the researchers must complete their doctoral degree within Europe
- **RI** (extended scope) and **CAR** panels **strengthened** (more budget) and longer duration for CAR (up to 3 years)
- **Global Fellowships** - possibility to spend time at the European beneficiary before the outgoing mobility foreseen
- **RISE** – less strict eligibility criteria for secondments
- **Teaching** will be highlighted
- **Increase budget** for ITN to counter low success rate
- **Increase budget** for IF to strengthen GF, CAR, RI, while preventing a drop in the success rates of standard EF

Next Framework Programme

The discussion on the next Framework Programme will start after the mid-term evaluation of H2020 is completed

Who can help you?



NCP – National Contact Point

(A-Z) Sitemap About this site Contact Legal Notice Search English

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Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > National Contact Points

HOME FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES HOW TO PARTICIPATE EXPERTS SUPPORT

National Contact Points

Network of National Contact Points (NCPs)

The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) is the main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon 2020.

What is the NCP network?

NCPs are national structures established and financed by governments of the 28 EU member states and the states associated to the framework programme. NCPs give personalised support on the spot and in applicants' own languages. The NCP systems can vary from one country to another from highly centralised to decentralised networks, and a number of very different actors, from ministries to universities, research centres and special agencies to private consulting companies.

NCPs are also established in many non-EU and non-associated countries ("third countries").

NCP Services

As the NCPs are national structures, the type and level of services offered may differ from country to country. In general, the following basic services are available in accordance with the [NCP Guiding Principles](#) agreed by all countries:

- Guidance on choosing relevant H2020 topics and types of action
- Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
- Training and assistance on proposal writing
- Distribution of documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
- Assistance in partner search

Search for your NCP

Find the contact details of your national H2020 National Contact Point or those of your potential partner's country. You can search for NCPs in Member States, Associated Countries and third countries. You can also search for NCPs by thematic areas or functions; for instance, you can look for an NCP who is specialised in Marie Curie actions. Hover over the NCP functions to view the explanation of their specific responsibilities.

The third country NCPs listed below were nominated in the context of the Seventh Framework Programme. This list will be progressively updated for Horizon 2020, as necessary.

Search for:

Select the country
Member states
Austria
Belgium

Future and Emerging Technolo
Marie Skłodowska-Curie
Infrastructures
Information and Communicatio

SEARCH

Sort by
Country
Contact name
Most recent
Organisation

HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH ON EUROPA CORDIS OLAF

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Your Country



MSCA



More Information

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Website

<http://ec.europa.eu/msca>

Horizon2020

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020>

Participant Portal (calls, online application, documents, FAQ, NCPs)

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>

Euraxess (jobs, rights, services, etc.)

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/>

European Charter for Researchers

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/whatIsAResearcher>

How to find partners:

<https://cordis.europa.eu/partners/web/guest>

MSCA on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions>

MSCA on Twitter @MSCactions



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For questions

- **H2020 Help desk**
- <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=enquiries>
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/faq.html>
- **National Contact Points**
- http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html
- **Marie Curie Alumni Association**
- <https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/>

Net4Mobility project

- Possibility to publish calls for interest on the project's website in order to attract researchers in your country.

<http://www.net4mobility.eu/eoi.html>



Thank you for your attention!

maria.tsivertara@ec.europa.eu