

FP7 IDEAS Programme

European Research Council



The European Research Council

ERC Calls 2007 – 2012: An overview with focus on Greece





The European Research Council

Explaining the ERC



What is ERC?

The ERC supports excellence in frontier research through a bottom-up, individual-based, pan-European competition

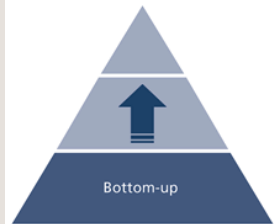
Budget: € 7.5billion (2007-2013) - 1.1 billion €/year

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





ERC Scientific Council Members

- Prof. Claudio BORDIGNON (Medicine)
- Prof. Nicholas CANNY, (History)
- Prof. Sierd A.P.L. CLOETINGH (Earth Sciences)
- Prof. Mathias DEWATRIPONT (Economics)
- Prof. Tomasz DIETL (Physics)
- Prof. Daniel DOLEV (Computer Sciences)
- Prof. Carlos M. DUARTE (Biology)
- Prof. Daniel ESTEVE (Physics)
- **Prof. Pavel EXNER (Applied Mathematics & Mathematical Physics), ERC Vice President**
- Prof. Hans-Joachim FREUND (Physics & Physical Chemistry)
- **Prof. Carl-Henrik HELDIN (Molecular Cell Biology), ERC Vice President**
- Prof. Timothy HUNT (Biology)
- Prof. Norbert KROO (Physics)
- Prof. Maria Teresa LAGO (Astrophysics)
- Prof. Henrietta L. MOORE (Social Anthropology)
- **Prof. Helga NOWOTNY (Science and Technology Studies), ERC President**
- Prof. Christiane NÜSSLEIN-VOLHARD (Genetics)
- Prof. Alain PEYRAUBE (Linguistics)
- Dr. Jens ROSTRUP-NIELSEN (Chemistry)
- Prof. Mart SAARMA (Biology)
- Prof. Anna TRAMONTANO (Biochemistry)
- Prof. Isabelle VERNOS (Molecular and Cell Biology)

Prof. Don Dingwell
ERC Secretary General

Creative freedom of the individual grantee

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



After 5 years of existence...

A success story

- more than 3.000 selected proposals
- in more than 500 different host institutions in 27 countries; almost 5 billion euro
- “excellence attracts excellence”: 50% of PIs in 50 institutions
- highly competitive: average success rate 12 %
- EU value added: pan-European competition among researchers for the first time ever
- strengthening peer-review-based evaluation systems
- strong structuring effects: reshaping the European landscape of basic/frontier research
- making Europe more attractive in the global competition for scientific talent

ERC Grant schemes

Starting Grants

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

Synergy Grants

2 – 4 *Principal* Investigators
up to € 15.0 Mio for 6 years

Proof-of-Concept

bridging gap between research - earliest
stage of marketable innovation
up to €150,000 for ERC grant holders

ERC Competitions 2007-2012

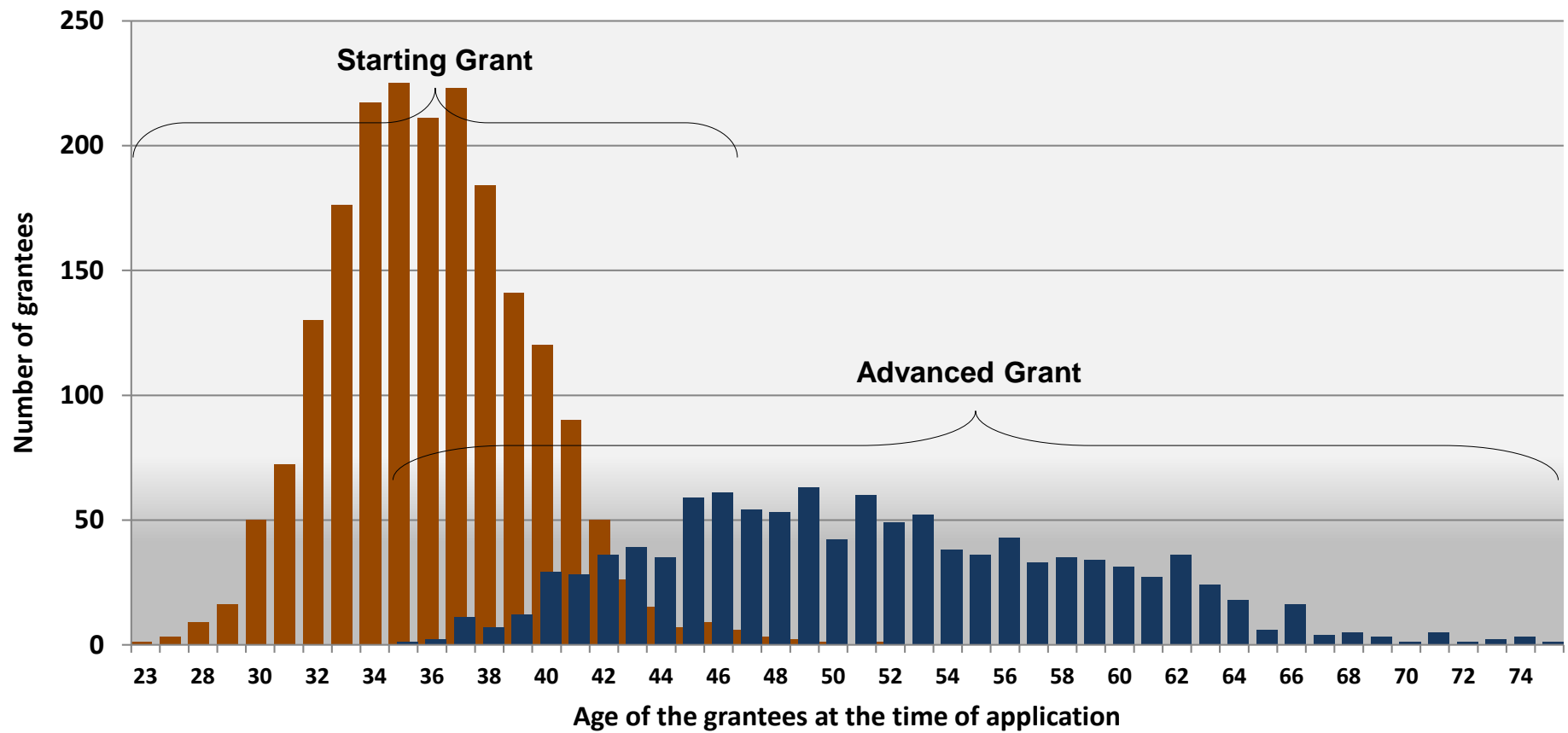
	Total number of applications received	of which		
		Evaluated*	Funded	success rates**
Starting Grant 2007	9.167	8.787	299	3,4
Starting Grant 2009	2.503	2.392	245	10,2
Starting Grant 2010	2.873	2.767	436	15,8
Starting Grant 2011	4.080	4.005	487	12,2
Starting Grant 2012***	4.741	4.654	536	11,5
Starting Grant	23.364	22.605	2.003	10,6
Advanced Grant 2008	2.167	2.034	282	13,9
Advanced Grant 2009	1.583	1.526	245	16,1
Advanced Grant 2010	2.009	1.967	271	13,8
Advanced Grant 2011	2.284	2.245	301	13,4
Advanced Grant	8.043	7.772	1.099	14,3
Proof of Concept 2011 - 1&2	151	139	51	36,7
Proof of Concept 2012 - 1***	75	60	33	55,0
Proof of Concept	226	199	84	45,8

* withdrawn and ineligible proposals not taken into account

** percentage of funded proposals in relation to evaluated proposals

*** selected

Many of the grantees are Young Scientists



ERC 2012

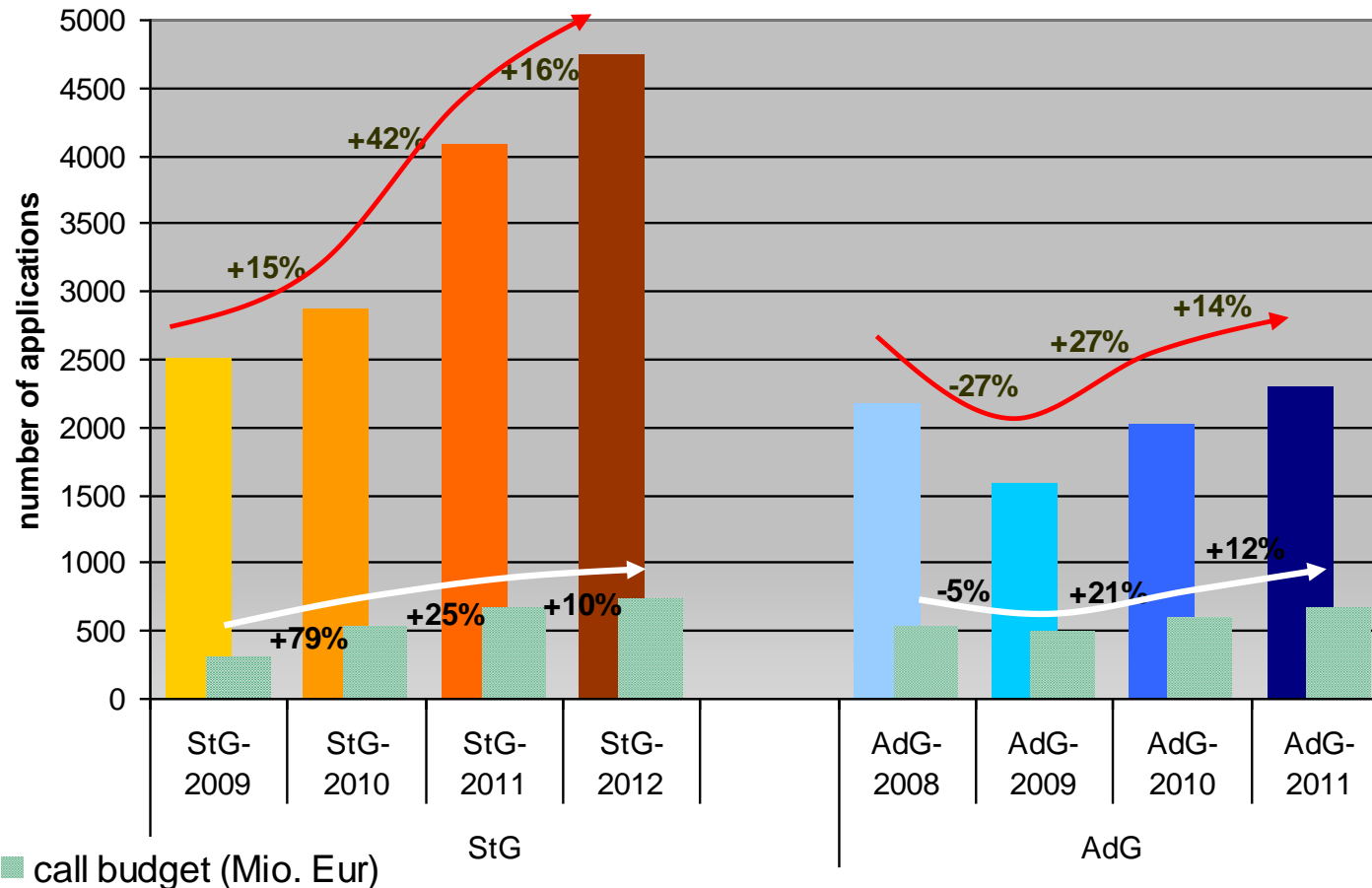
Starting Grant 2007-2012; Advanced Grant 2008-2011

Work Programme 2013 - Budget

Total budget: **€1,755m**

- Starting Grant: **€398m**
- Consolidator Grant: **€523m** **NEW!**
- Advanced Grant: **€662m**
- Synergy Grant: **€150m** **Pilot**
- Proof of Concept Grant: **€10m**
- Other Activities (M&E Gender, Biblio, PMC Europe, ID Committee, Chair/vice-chairs, ScC Plenary meetings): **€ 1.33m**

WP 2013 - Consolidator Grant



WP 2013 - Other activities

- New study (ERC proposal submission, peer review and gender mainstreaming).
- New public procurement (to acquire relevant external data sets to benchmark ERC performance).
- New support to open access (ERC will subscribe to join a European version of PubMed Central).
- Continuing admin. support to chair and vice chairs of Scientific Council, honoraria for Scientific Council members and funding for Standing Identification Committee.

ERC calls 2013

New ERC calls	Publication	Deadline
Starting 2013	10 July 2012	17 Oct. 2012
Consolidator 2013	7 Nov. 2012	21 Feb. 2013
Advanced 2013	10 July 2012	22 Nov. 2012
Synergy 2013	10 Oct. 2012	10 Jan. 2013
PoC 2013	10 Jan. 2013	24 April 2013 3 Oct. 2013



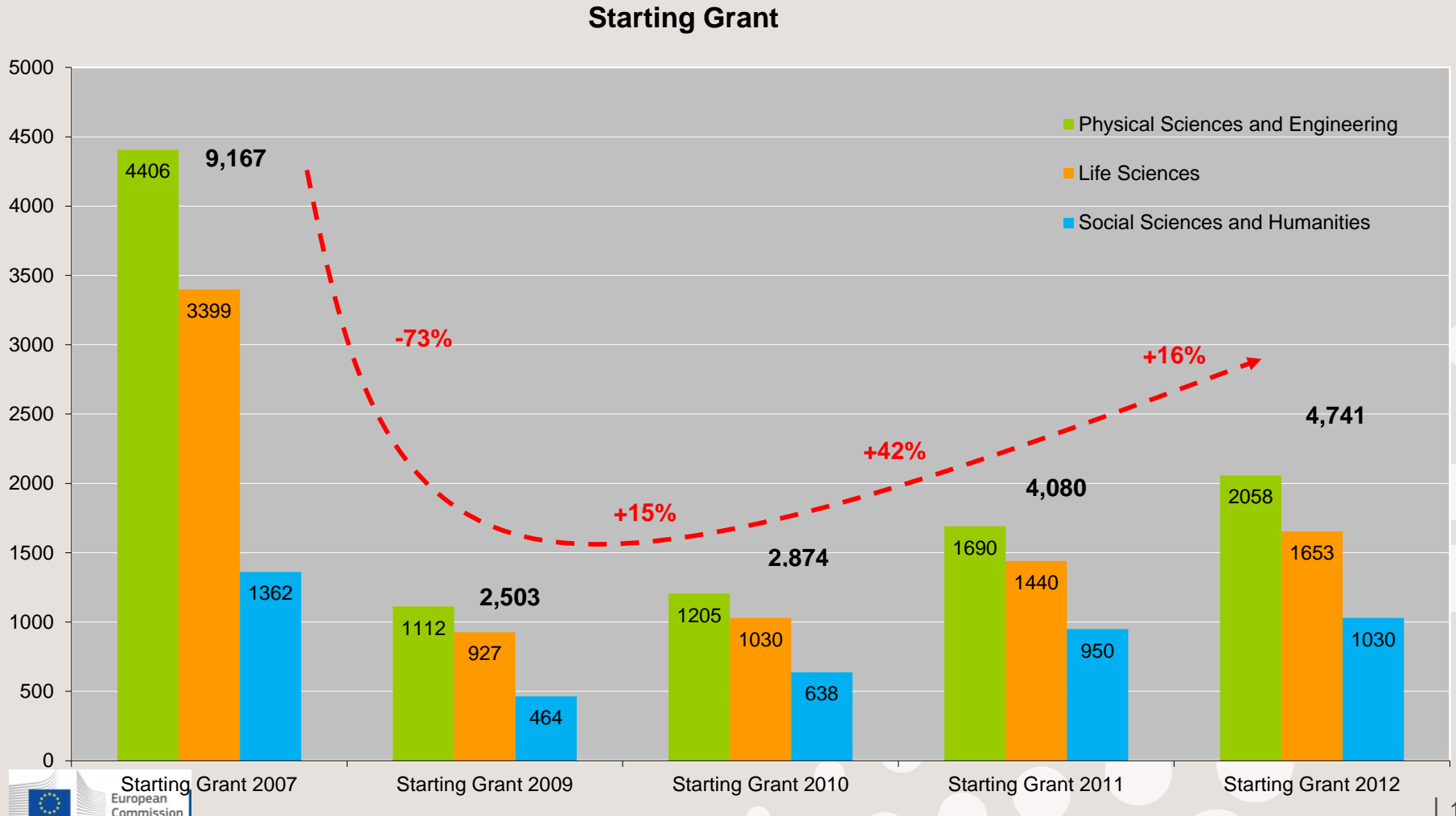
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Participation of Greece



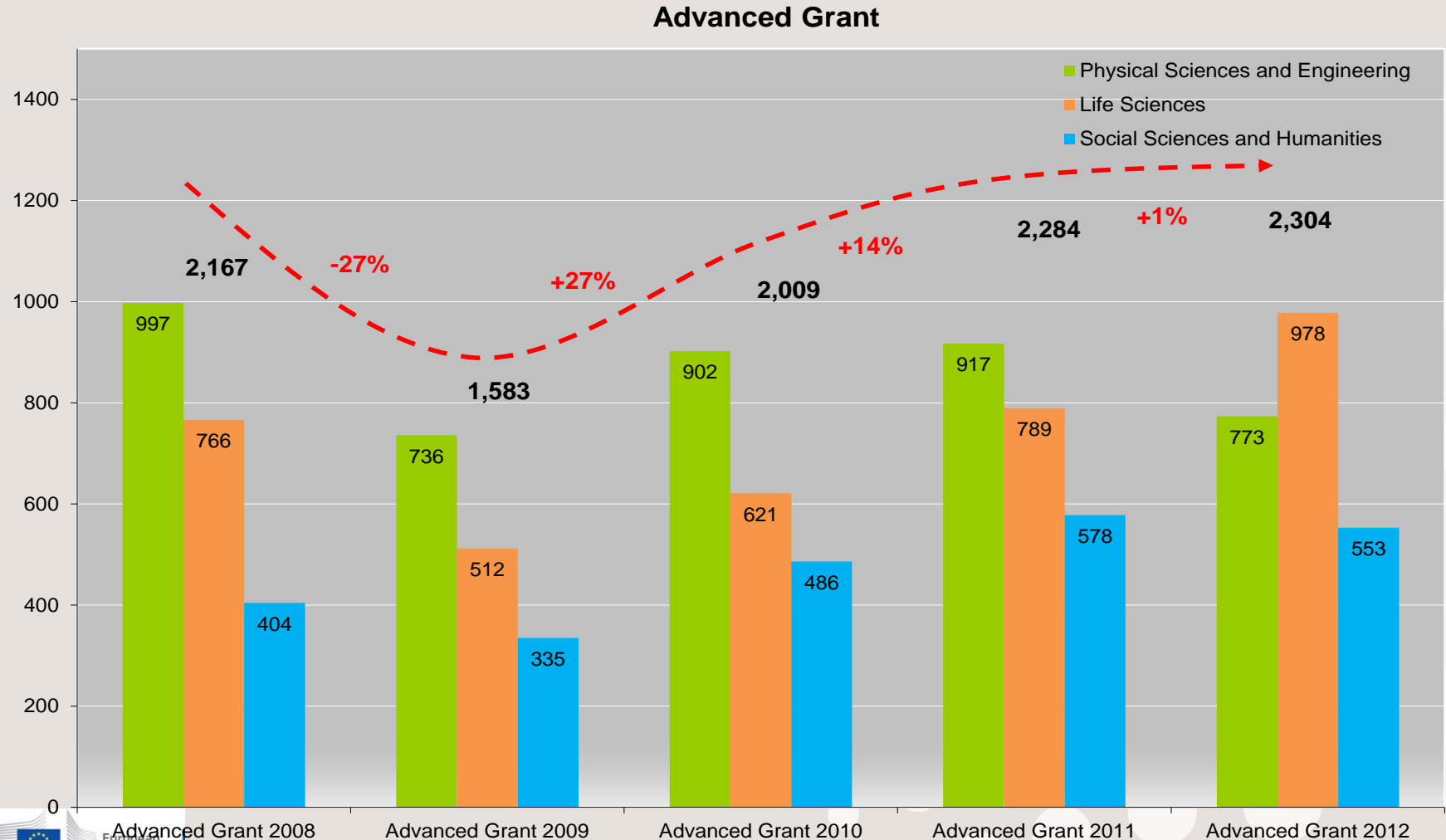
Submitted proposals by domain

ERC Starting grant calls 2007 - 2012



Submitted proposals by domain

ERC Advanced grant calls 2008 - 2012



Evaluated proposals from hosts in Greece

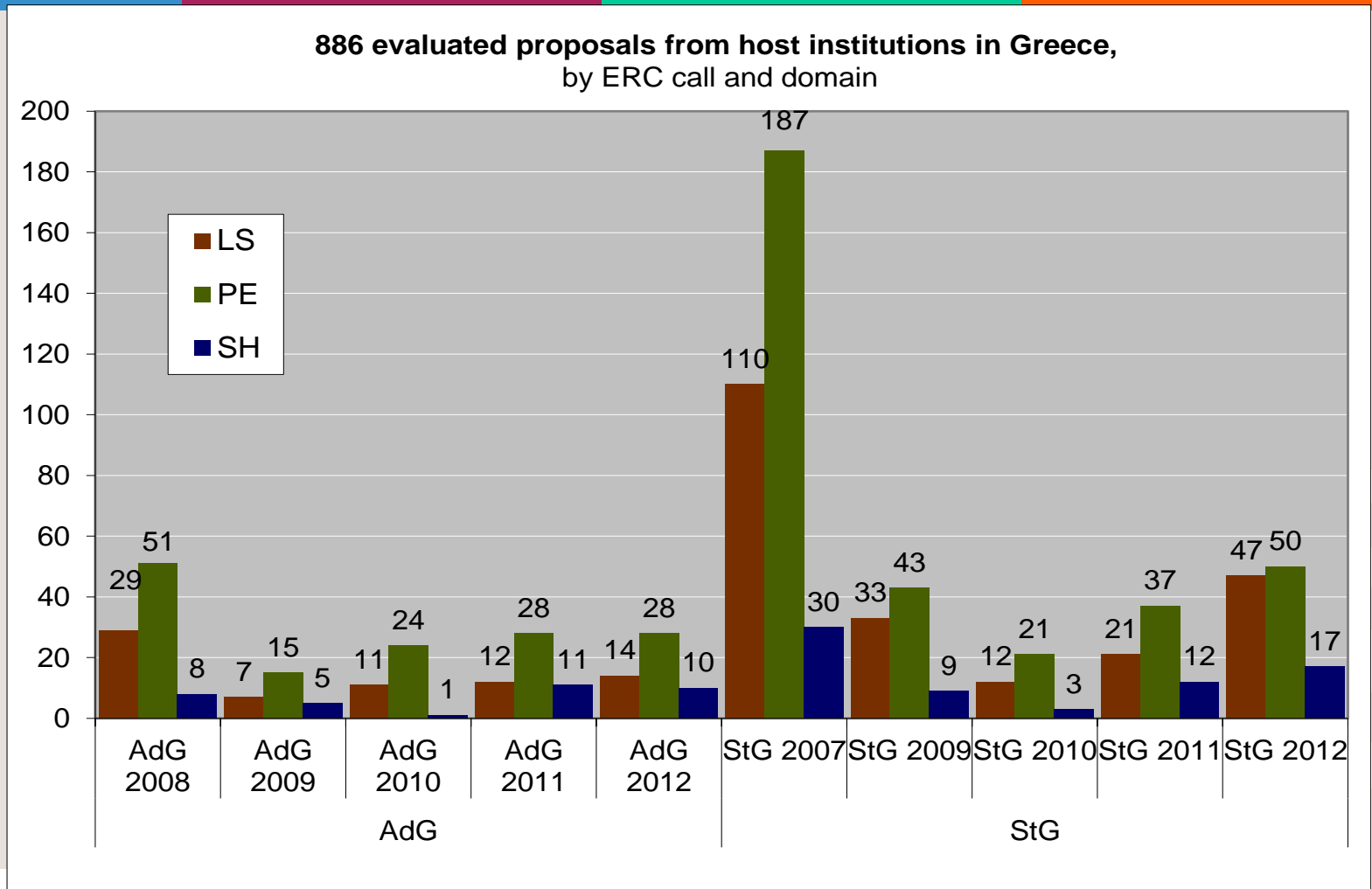
ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2012

296 LS

484 PE

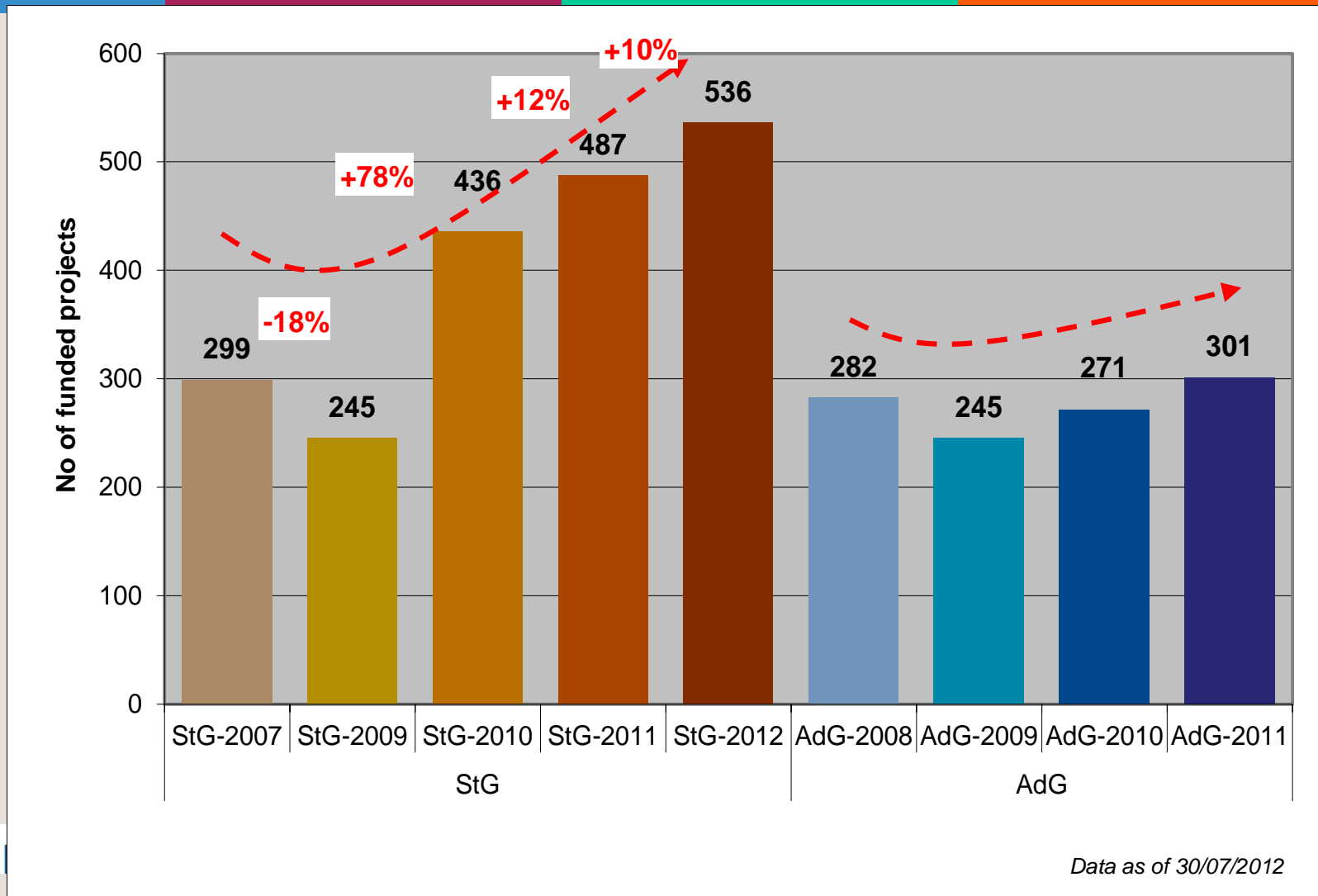
106 SH



Funded projects

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



Granted proposals at hosts in Greece

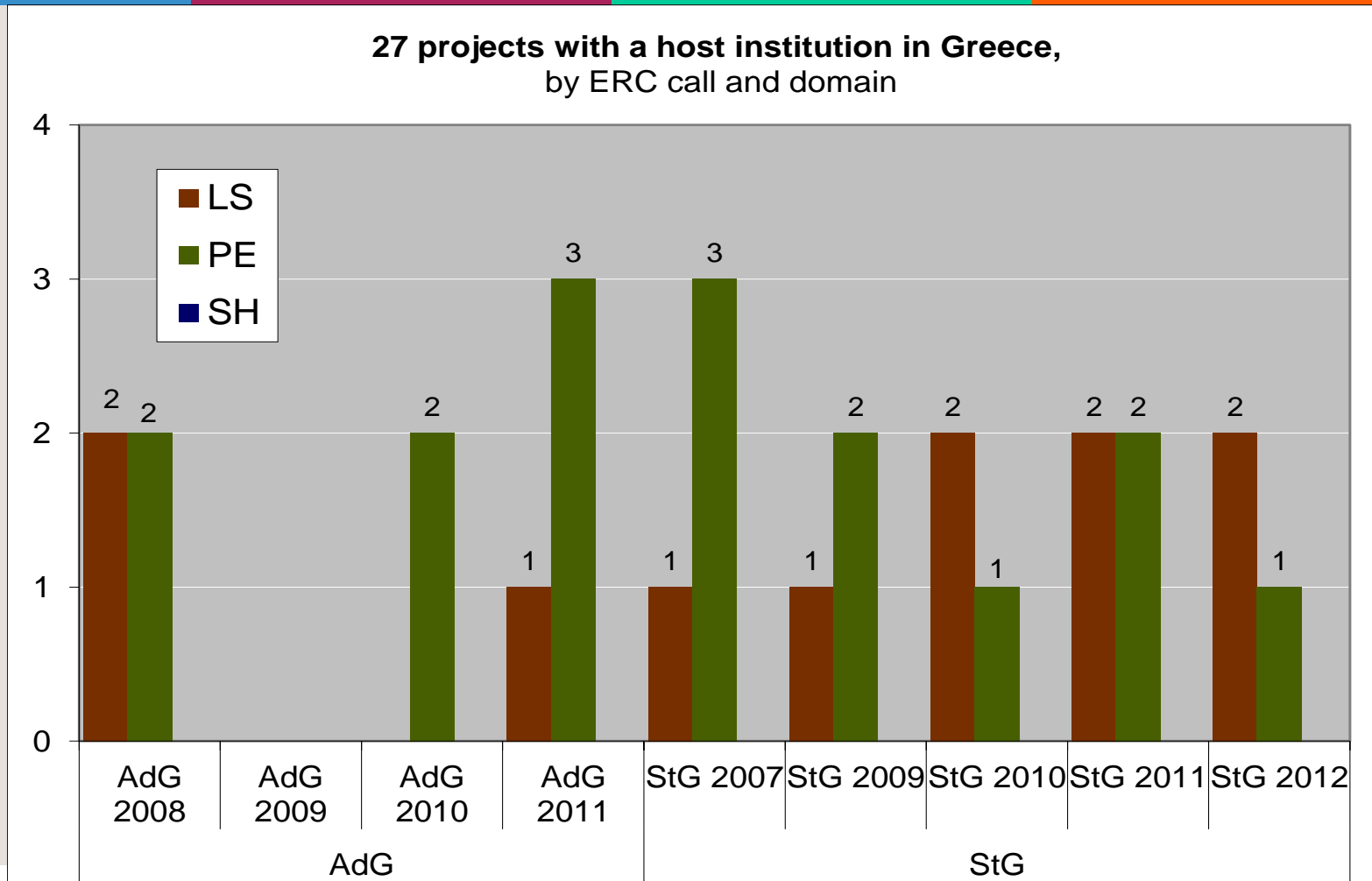
ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011

11 LS

16 PE

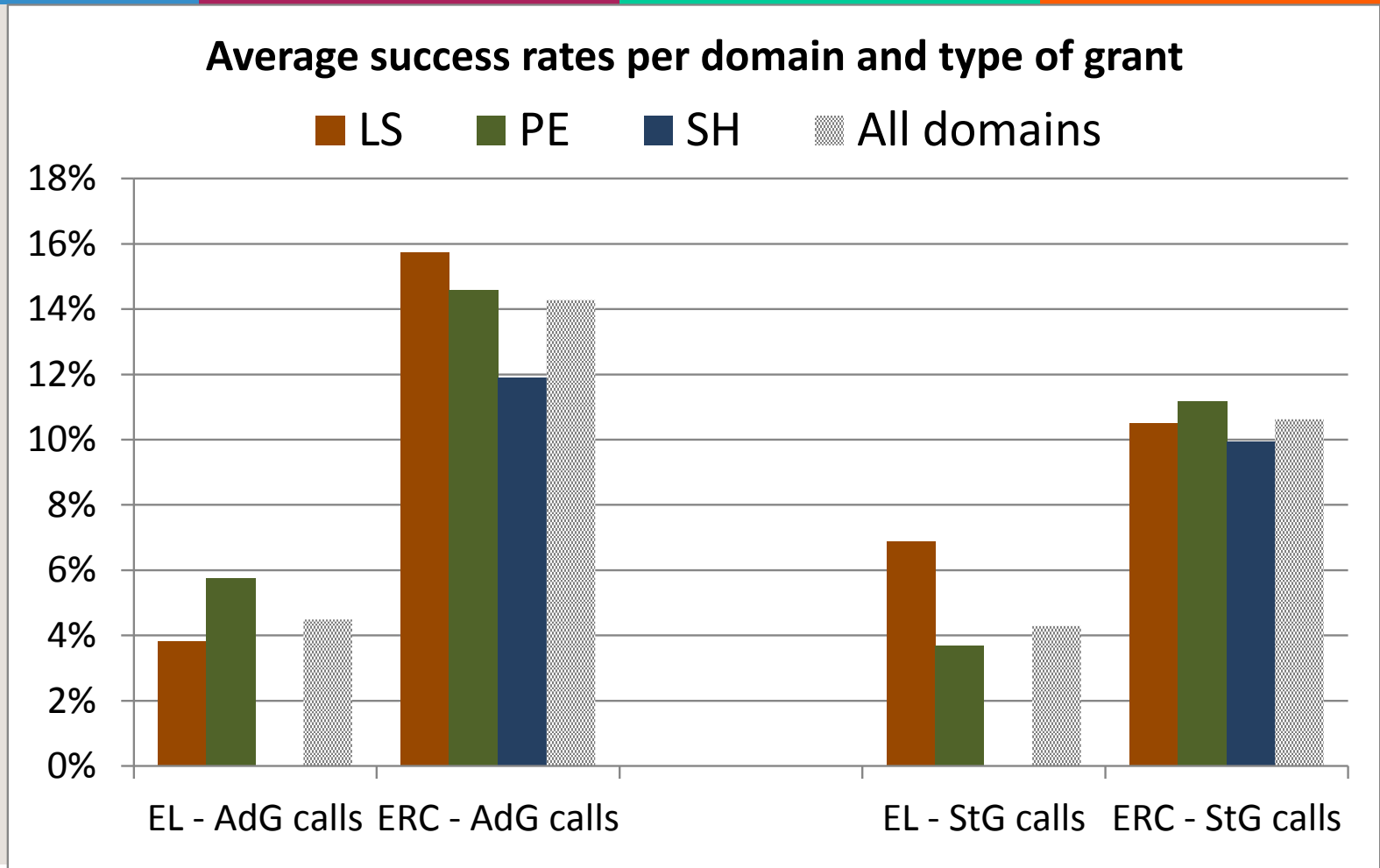
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Average success rates per domain and type of grant Greece compared to ERC average

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

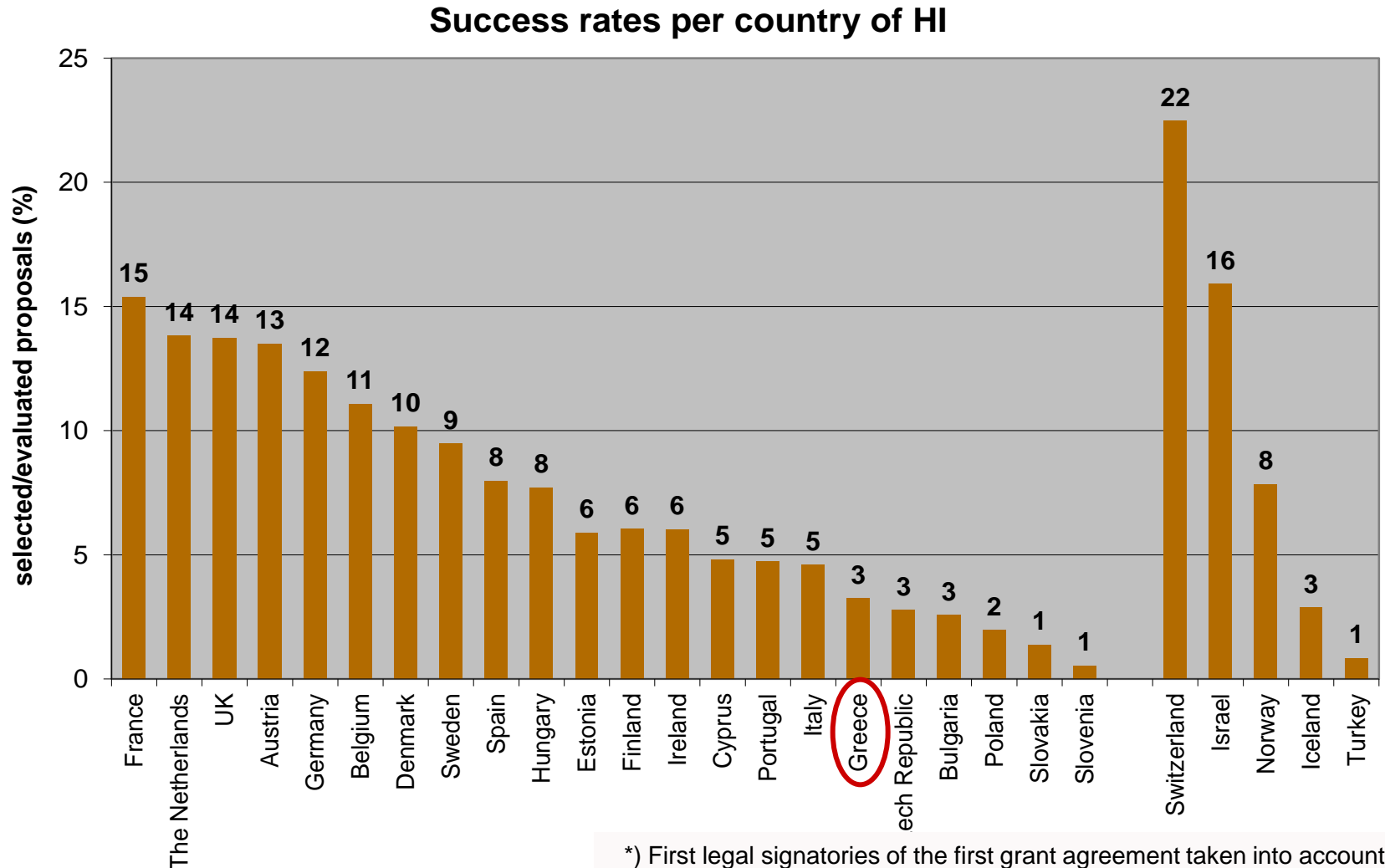
ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



Success rates per country of Host Institution

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011

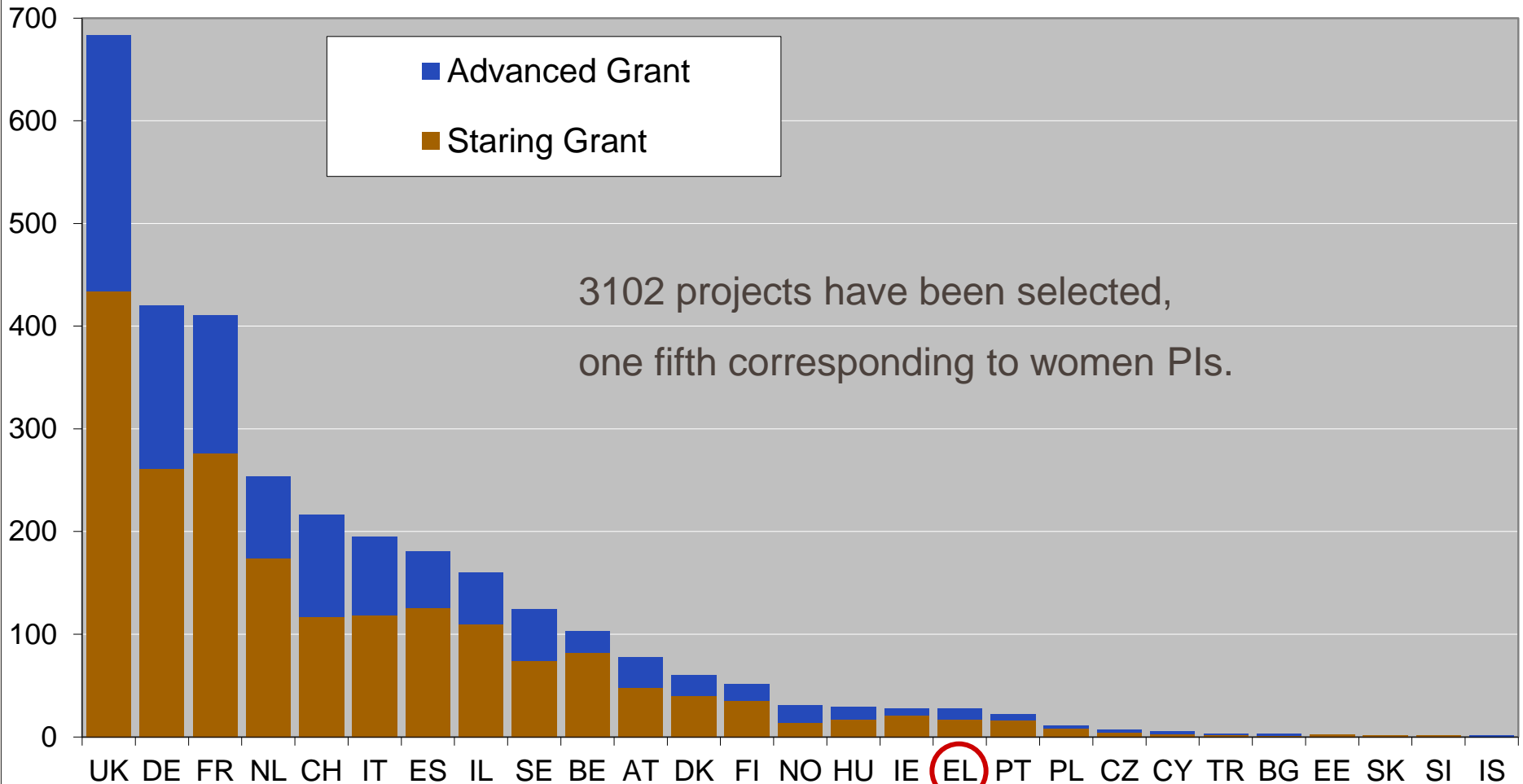




ERC grant distribution to countries of HI

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



Data as of 30/07/2012

*) Host institution refers to the organisation with which the first grant agreement was signed | 22



More than 500 ERC Host Institutions in 27 countries

Country	Higher-Education Institution	No	StG	AdG	Total
UK	University of Cambridge	1	55	32	87
UK	University of Oxford	2	47	34	81
CH	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne	3	38	25	63
UK	University College London	4	40	19	59
CH	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich)	5	22	29	51
IL	Hebrew University of Jerusalem	6	32	17	49
IL	Weizmann Institute	7	30	18	48
UK	Imperial College	7	28	20	48
BE	University of Leuven	8	23	8	31
UK	University of Edinburgh	9	18	12	30
UK	University of Bristol	10	14	15	29
DE	University of Munich	11	10	15	25
NL	Leiden University	11	14	11	25
CH	University of Zurich	11	12	13	25
SE	Karolinska Institute	11	16	9	25
FI	University of Helsinki	11	16	9	25
NL	University of Amsterdam	12	16	8	24
IL	Technion - Israel Institute of Technology	12	21	3	24
NL	Radboud University Nijmegen	12	18	6	24
Country	Research Organisation	No	StG	AdG	Total
FR	National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)	1	114	38	152
DE	Max Planck Society	2	57	29	86
FR	National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm)	3	28	9	37
FR	French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission	4	30	6	36
ES	Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)	5	20	6	26
FR	National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automatic Control (INRIA)	6	16	8	24

**Top
European
Institutions
hosting
at least 24
ERC Grantees
by funding
Schemes**

StG 2007-2012
AdG 2008-2011

*First legal signatories
of the grant agreement*

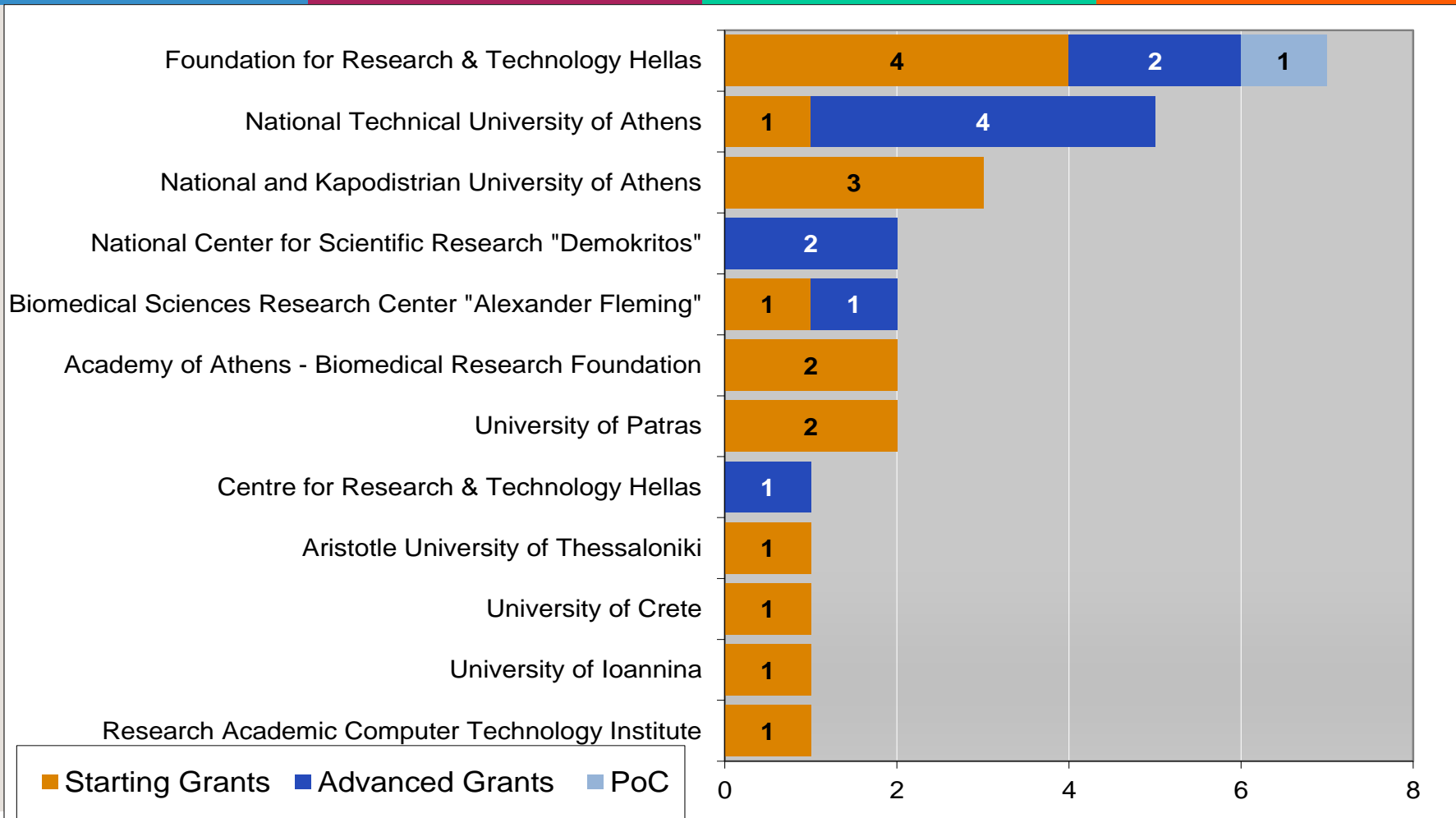
Data as of 30/07/2012



Host institutions in Greece

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



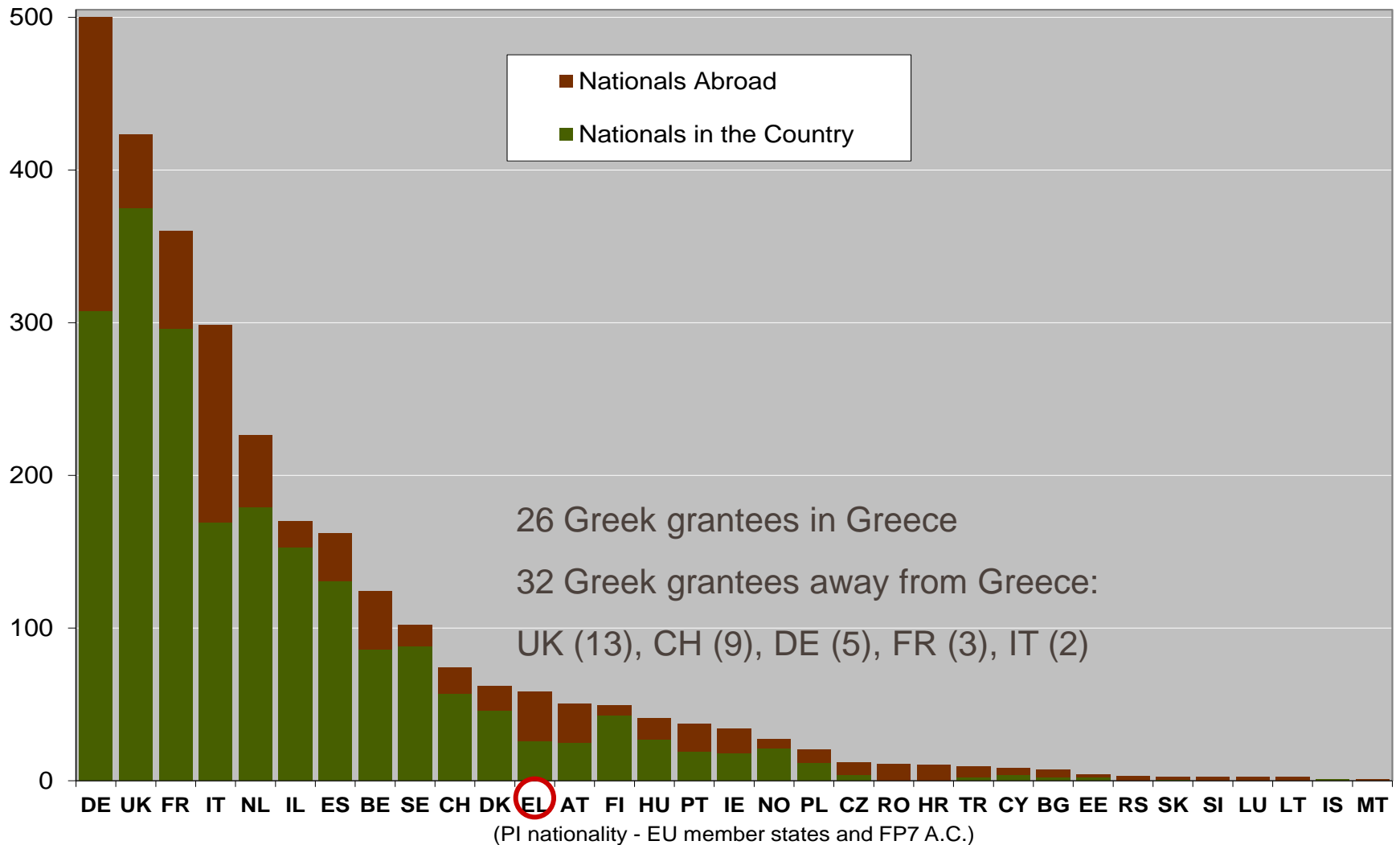
Mobility of researchers (I)

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



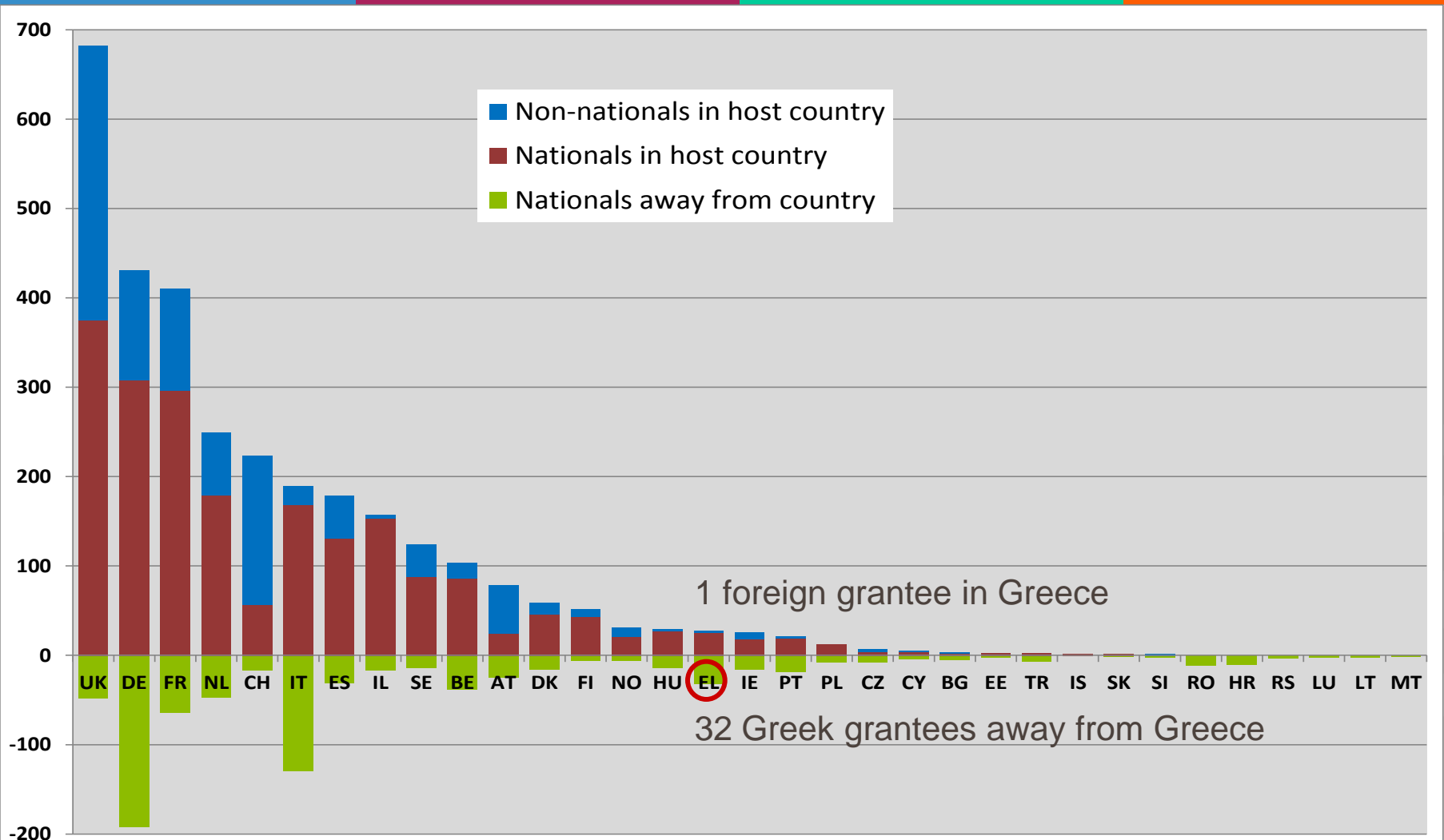
Nationality as last declared by the principal investigator



Mobility of researchers (II)

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



Success rate of Greek applicants

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011

Applicants with Greek nationality (evaluated proposals): 1102

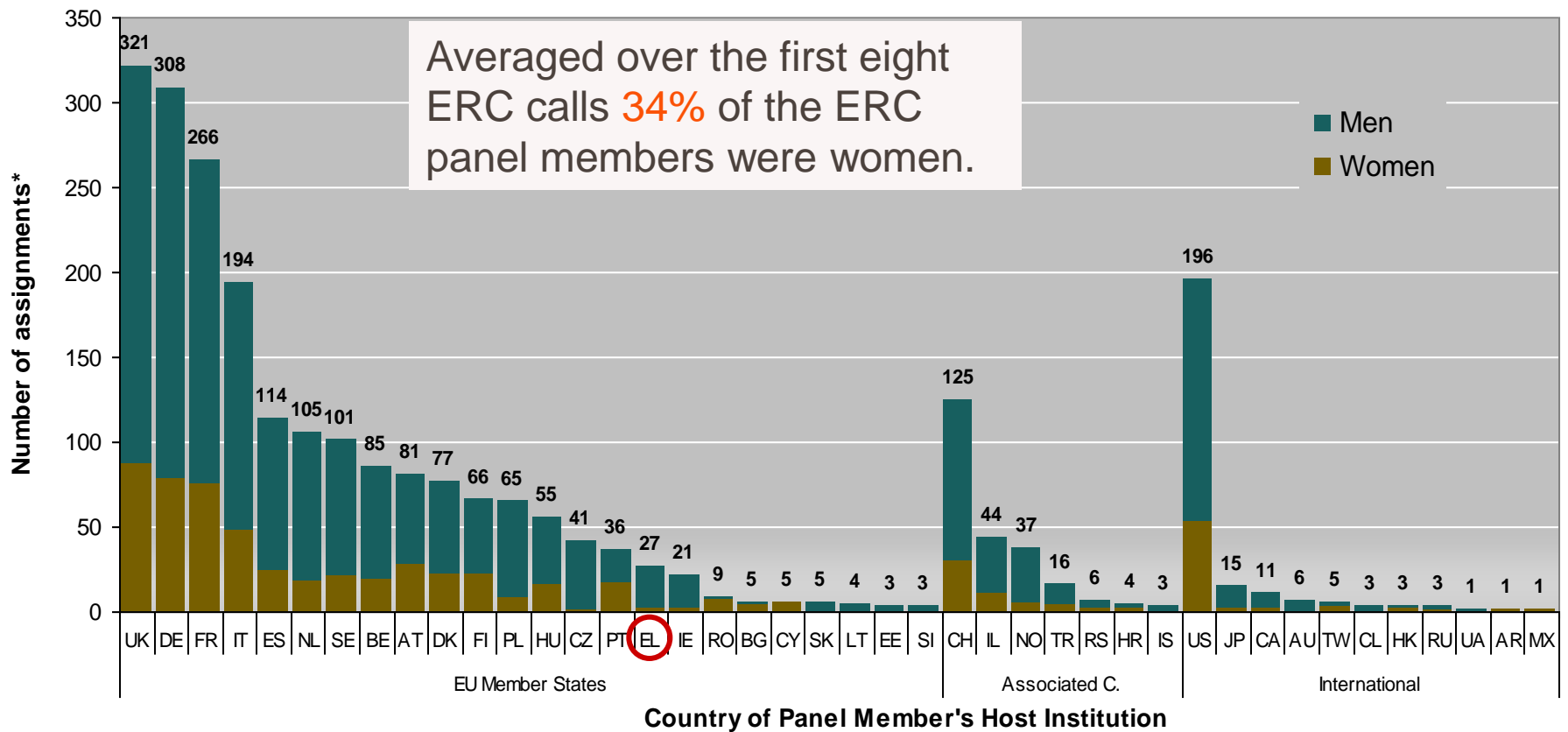
- resident in Greece at the time of application: 775 (70%)
- resident outside Greece at the time of application: 327 (30%)

	evaluated	funded	success rate
resident in Greece staying home	751	23	3%
resident in Greece applying abroad	24	3	13%
resident abroad coming to Greece	49	3	6%
resident abroad remaining abroad	278	29	10%
all Greek applicants	1102	58	5%



ERC panel members by country of HI and gender

ERC Starting and Advanced grant calls 2007 - 2011



* no of instances that experts of a certain country of origin are being used

Frontier research and innovation: ERC Proof of Concept

- Initiated to help ERC grant-holder to bridge the gap between their research and the earliest stage of a marketable innovation
- Supporting grant-holders during the pre-demonstration
- Up to 150.000 Euro per grant
- One step evaluation
- First call in Autumn 2011 with 2 deadlines
- Second call in 2012 (deadlines: 3 May and 3 October 2012)

	2011	2012
Total applications	151	75
Evaluated*	139	60
Funded	51	33

*) withdrawn and ineligible proposals not taken into account

Speeding up the discovery process: ERC Synergy grant

- 2012 work programme on a pilot basis
- 2 – 4 Principal Investigators; complementary skills, knowledge & resources; to jointly address frontier research problems
- Up to €15m for up to six years
- Based on ERC principles (no consortia, no networks):
 - bottom-up and risk-taking
 - driven by scientific demand
 - PIs expected to spend significant “core time” together
 - only one Host Institution, but groups not required to be physically located in the same place
- **710** submissions to the first Synergy Call



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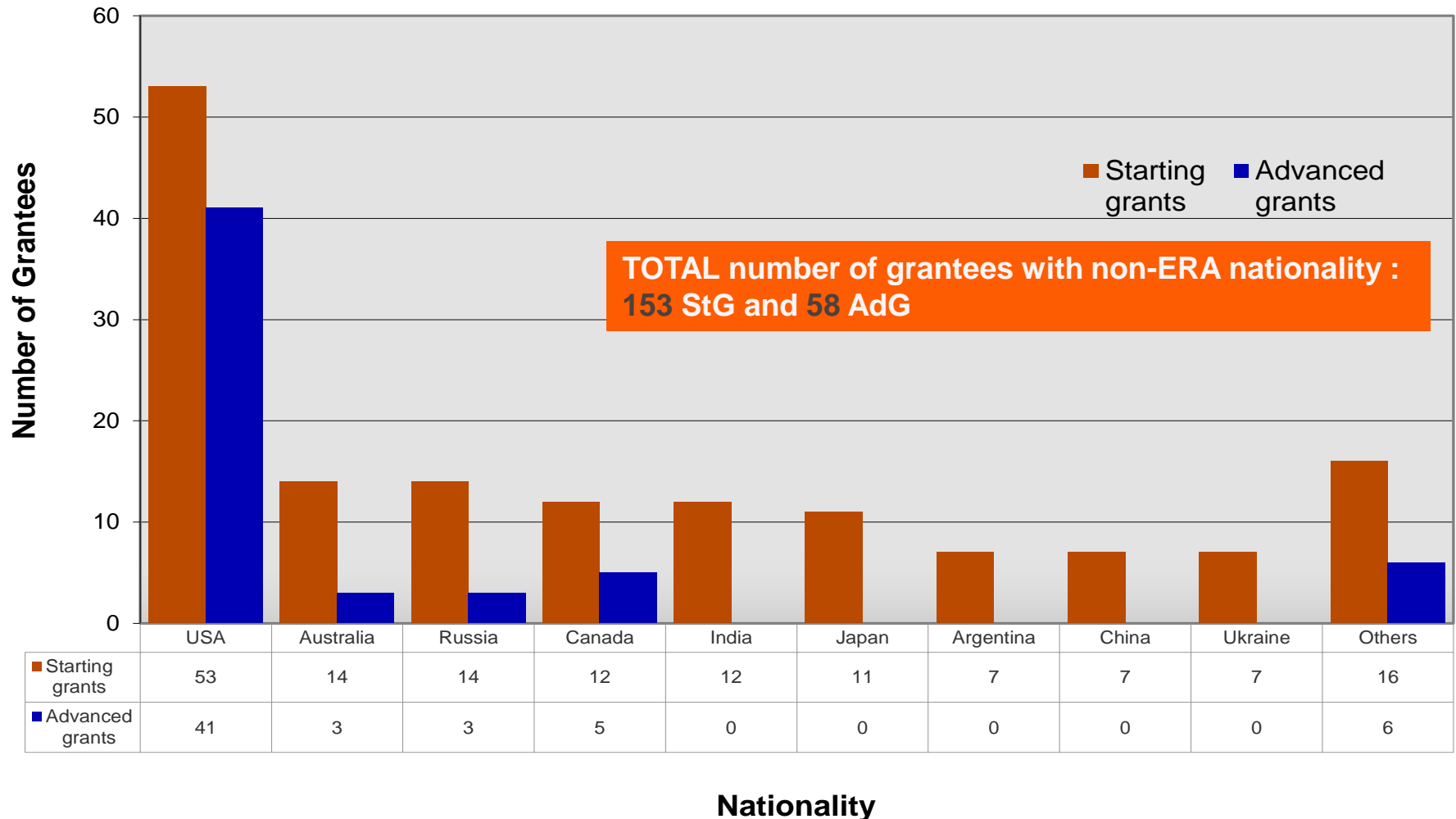
International participation



ERC grantees with a non-ERA nationality

ERC Starting Grant calls 2007-2012

ERC Advanced Grant calls 2008-2011



*) nationality as last declared by the principal investigator

Data as of 30/07/2012

Few grantees from outside ERA

Mainly researchers moving/returning from the US

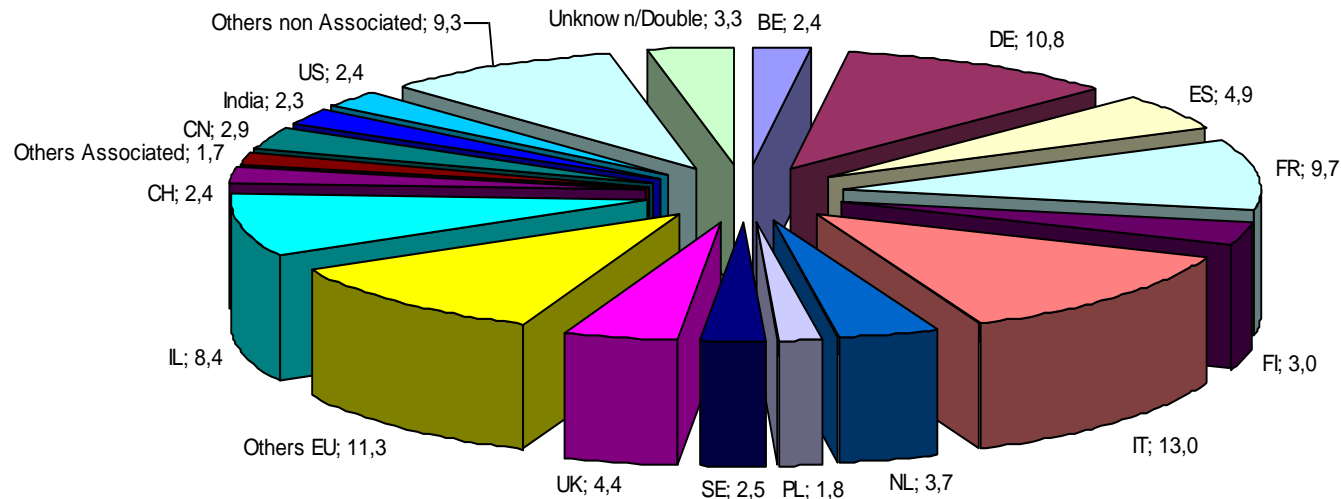
Country of residence	International grantees	ERA nationals	Total
Argentina	1		1
Australia	1	2	3
Brazil	1		1
Canada	1	1	2
India	2		2
Japan	1	1	2
Korea		1	1
USA	16	54	70
Total	23	59	82

Team members: internationalisation

a sample of 383 on-going projects

about 2200 team members without principal investigators

- Breakdown **by nationality** (77):



Greece: 2.1% of team members in the sample (and 2.1% of PIs)

EU: 67% Assoc. Countries: 13% Other Countries: 17% Unknown: 3%



Attracting excellent researchers worldwide

"ERC goes global" campaign

targeting top and emerging research locations



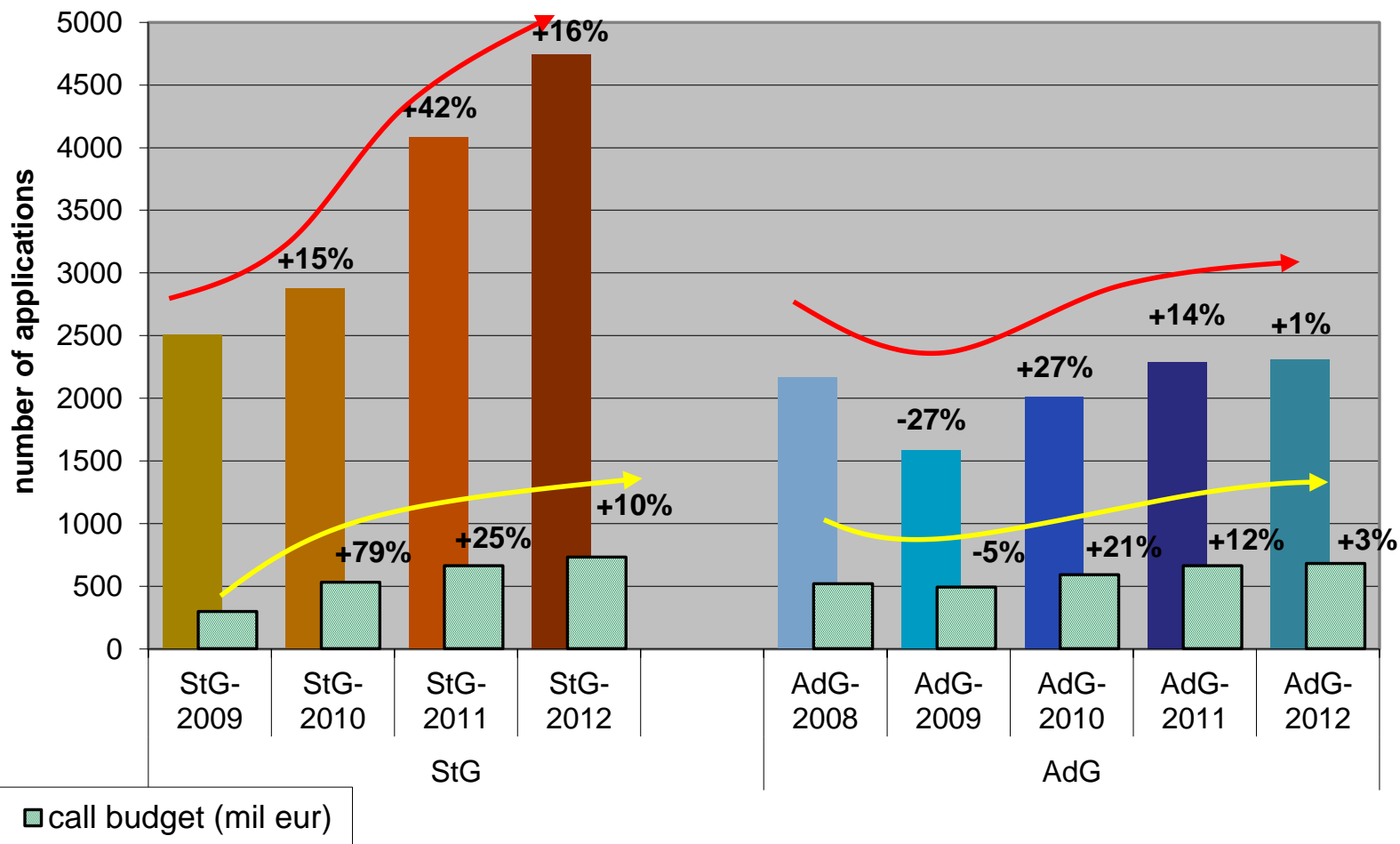


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Prospects for the future



Rising applications



HORIZON 2020

➤ HORIZON 2020 structure:

- Excellence Science
- Industrial leadership
- Societal challenges
- EIT
- JRC

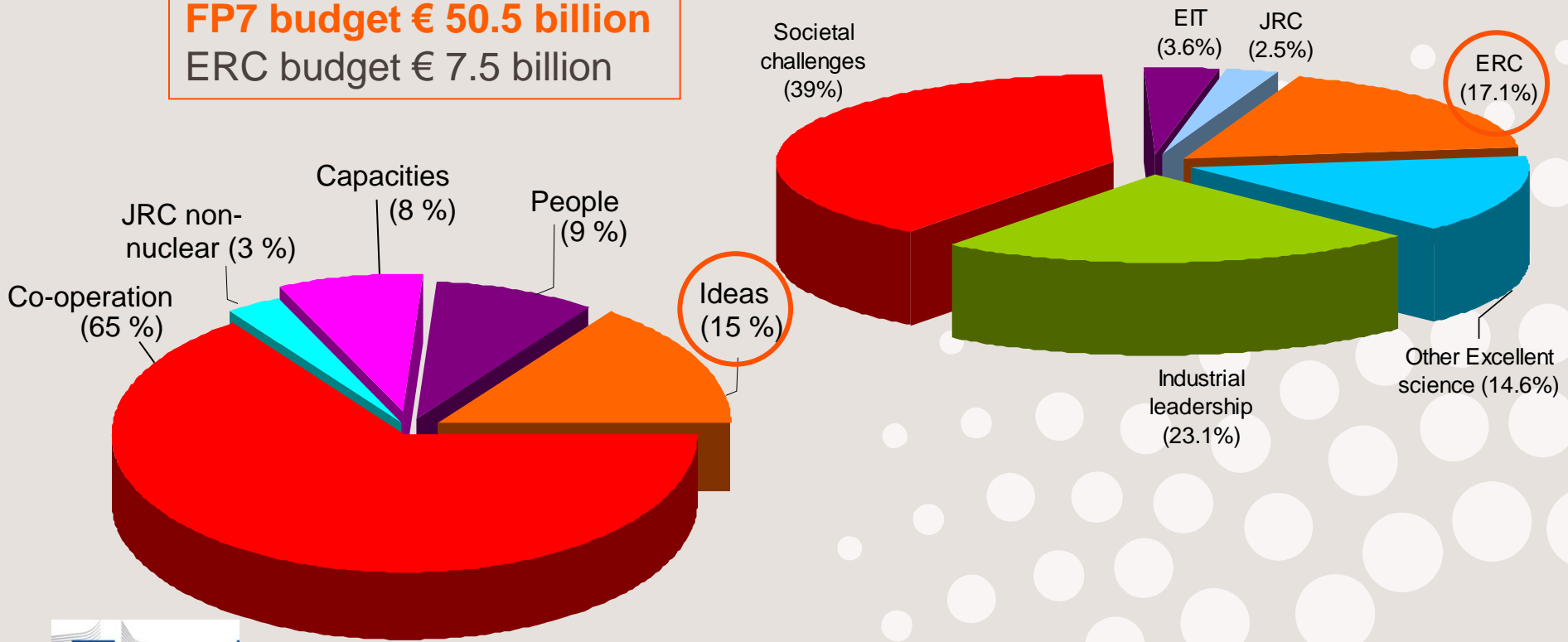
➤ **Excellent Science:** reinforcing and extending the excellence of the EU's science base and consolidating ERA to make EU's R&I system more competitive on a global scale

- ✧ **European Research Council** (budget proposal under H2020: € 15 billion, stabilizing at 2013 levels)
- ✧ Future and Emerging Technologies
- ✧ Marie Curie
- ✧ Research Infrastructures

Budget proposal under H2020

H2020 budget € 88 billion
ERC budget € 15 billion

FP7 budget € 50.5 billion
ERC budget € 7.5 billion



Main communication tools / Multipliers

- ***Ideas* NCP (National Contact Points)**
- **ERC Website**
- **Press and media relations**
- **Social media: ERC on Facebook and Twitter**
- **Quarterly e-newsletter and e-News Alerts**
- **Publications/flyers**
- **Audiovisual products**
- **Stand and sessions at conferences/congresses**