

# The European Research Council



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## International Participation to ERC



# Creative Freedom to Individual Grantee

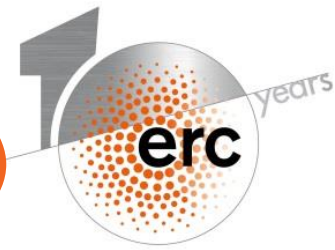


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## ERC offers independence, recognition & visibility

- 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

# Evaluation Panel Structure (WP2017)



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## Life Sciences

- 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 Diagnostics, Therapies, Applied Medical Technology and Public Health
- LS8 Evolutionary, Population and Environmental Biology
- LS9 Applied Life Sciences and Non-Medical Biotechnology

## Physical Sciences & Engineering

- PE1 Mathematics
- PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter
- PE3 Condensed Matter Physics
- PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences
- PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials
- PE6 Computer Science and Informatics
- PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering
- PE8 Products and Process Engineering
- PE9 Universe Sciences
- PE10 Earth System Science

## Social Sciences and Humanities

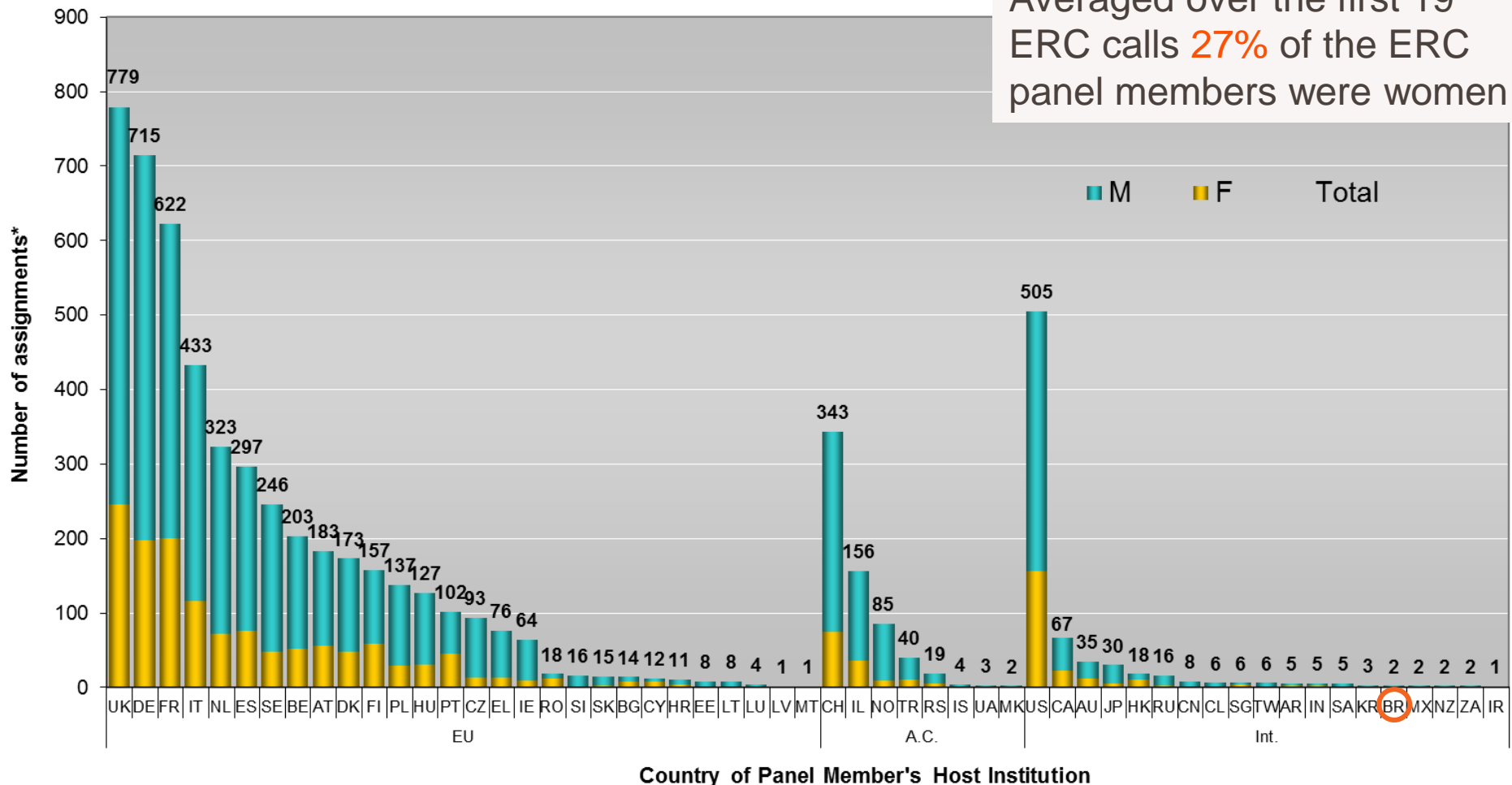
- SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations
- SH2 Institutions, Values, Environment and Space
- SH3 The Social World, Diversity, Population
- SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity
- SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production
- SH6 The Study of the Human Past

# International Evaluation Panels



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Averaged over the first 19 ERC calls **27%** of the ERC panel members were women



Based on the ERC StG, CoG and AdG calls 2007 - 2015

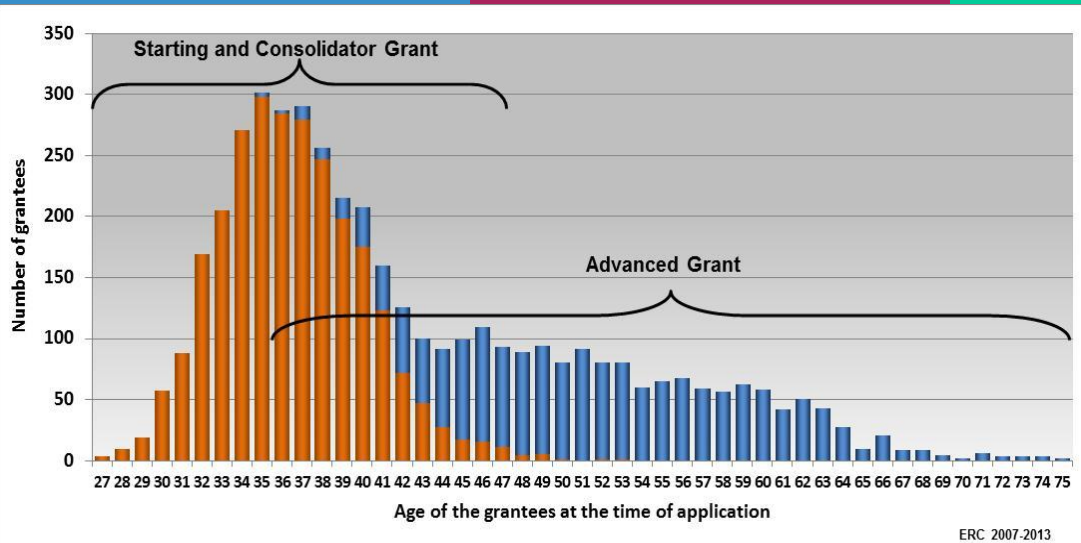


European Commission

European Union funding for Research & Innovation

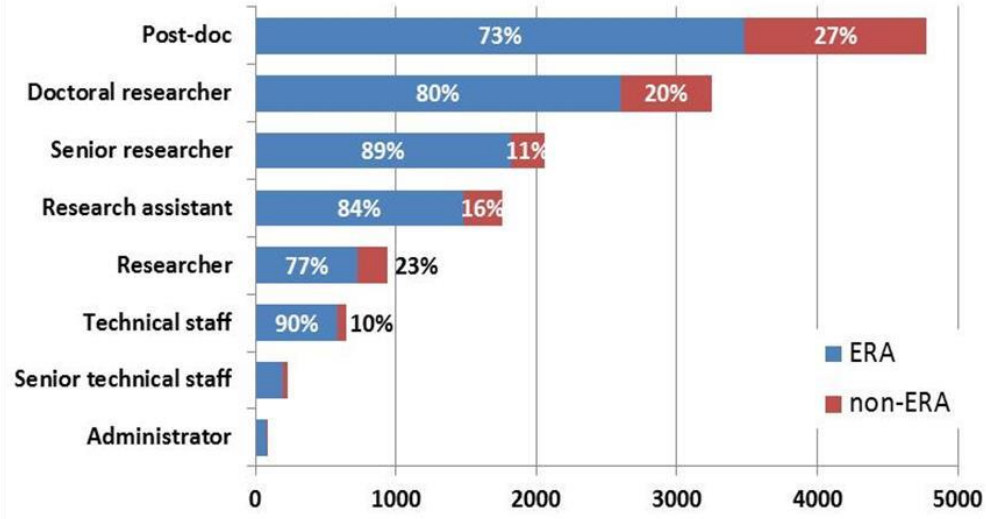
# Priority to Young Scientists

+ 30 000 PhD and post-doc researchers working in ERC teams.



Two-thirds of ERC grants to early-stage Principal Investigators.

Reported team members (2015)  
head count (1901 projects; almost 14,000 team members)





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# INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION TO ERC

# Attracting Researchers from Outside Europe



## Flexibility

- Additional “start-up” funding for scientists moving to Europe (EUR 500 000 for Starting, EUR 750 000 for Consolidator and EUR 1 Million for Advanced grantees)
- Grantee can keep affiliation with home institute outside Europe (“significant part” of work time in Europe, at least 50%)
- Team members can be based outside Europe
- Grantee can move within Europe with the grant

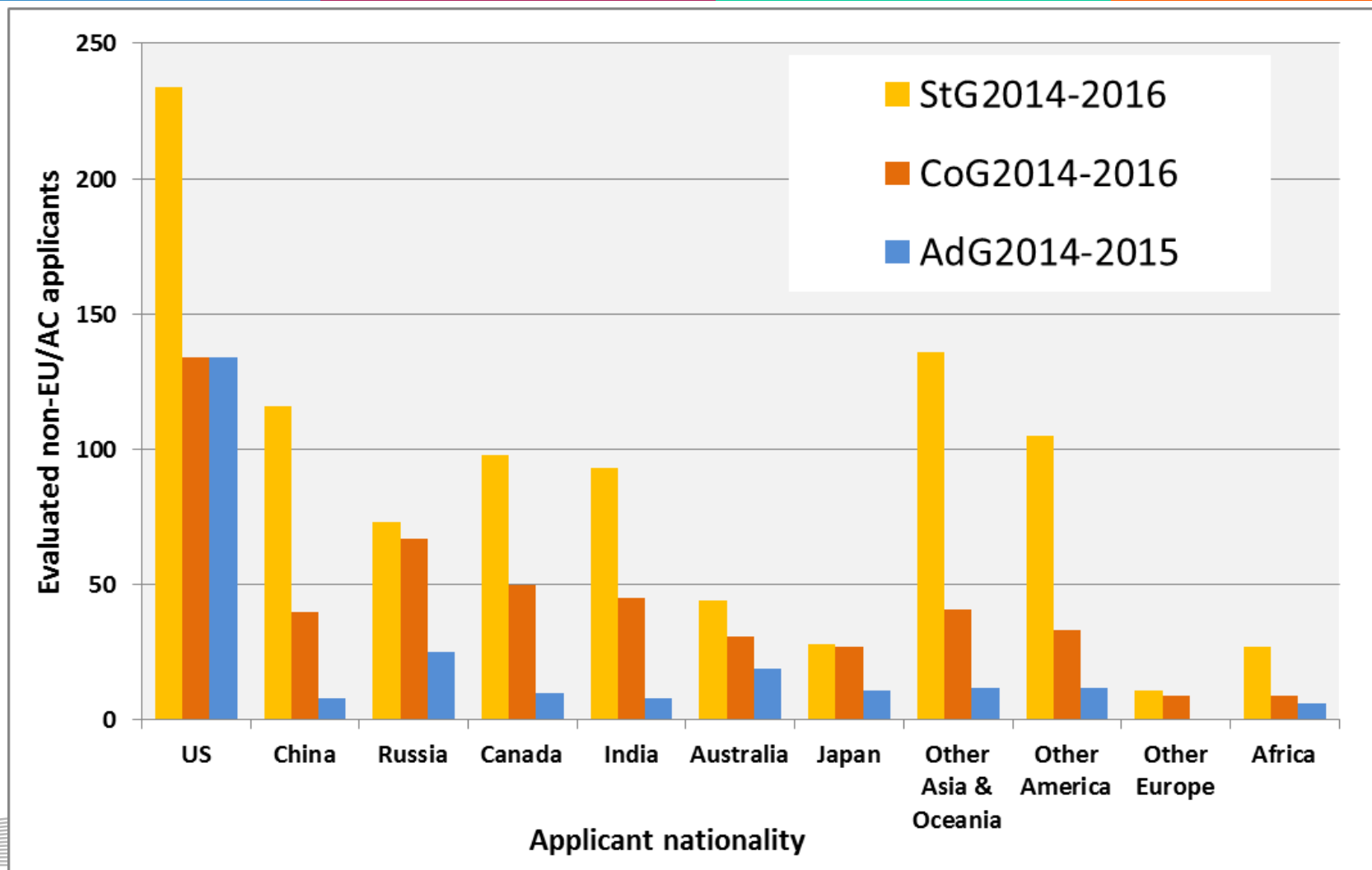
## Accompanying measures

- Several European countries/host institutions assist applicants and reward grantees with top-up funds

# ERC Calls 2014-2015 + StG2016 + CoG2016 Evaluated Proposals from non-EU/AC Nationals



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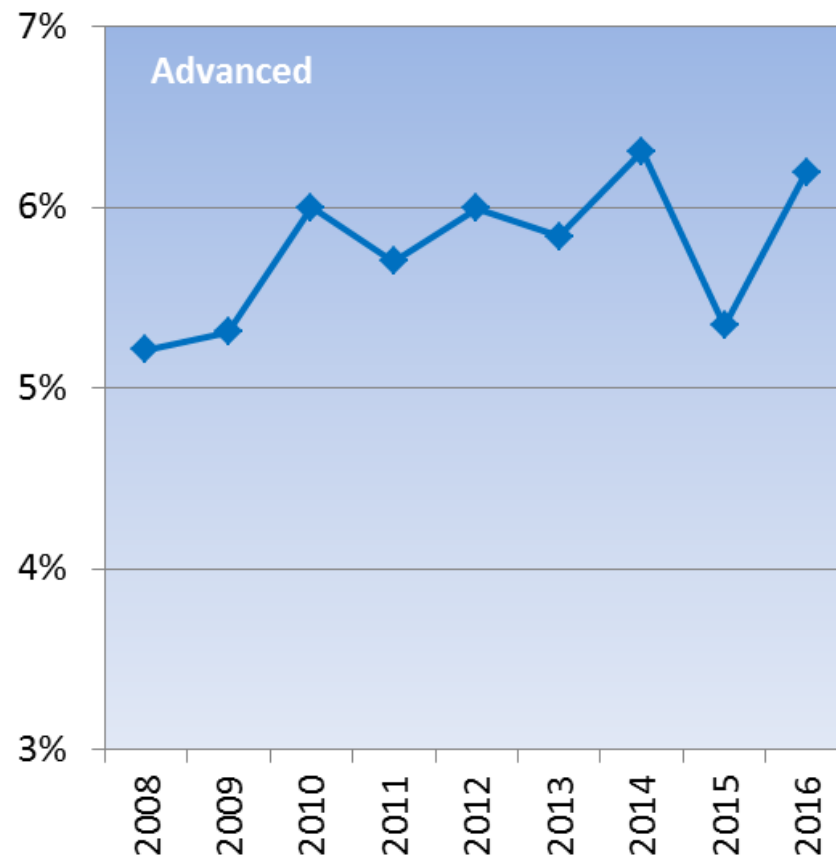
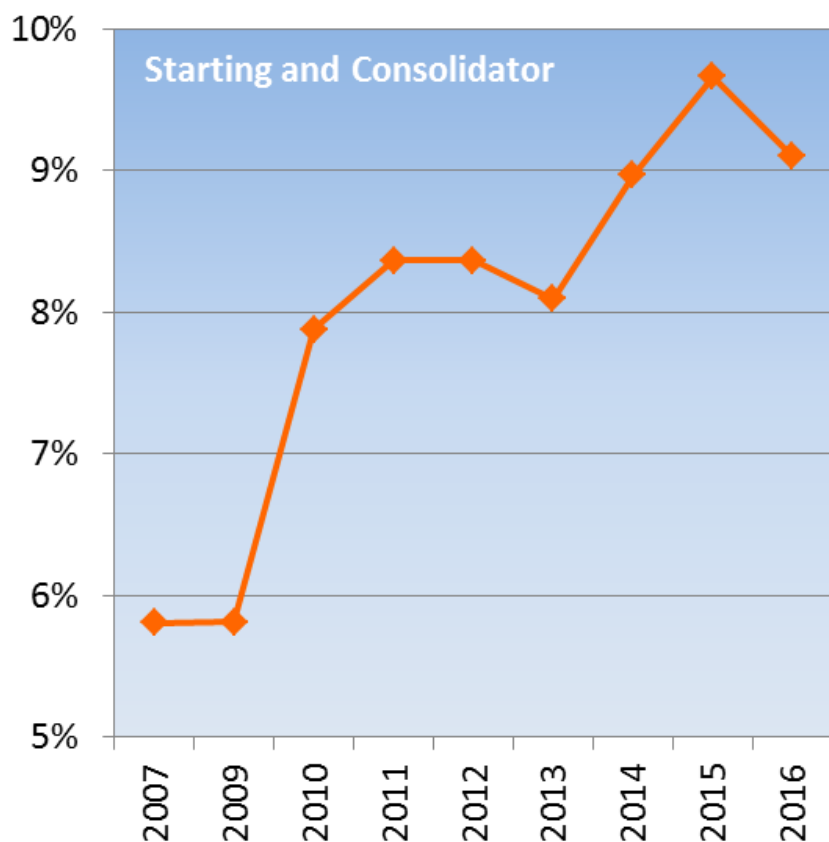


# Increased Participation to H2020 Starting and Consolidator Calls



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## Proportion of evaluated proposals from non-EU/AC nationals by call year



# 34 Non-EU/AC Nationalities



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Almost 8% of all ERC grants to principal investigators of non-EU/AC nationality

Non-EU/AC Principal Investigators	Starting and Consolidator grants	Advanced grants	Total grants
USA	136	82	218
Canada	54	9	63
Russia	35	9	44
India	36	2	38
Australia	32	5	37
Japan	21	4	25
China	23	0	23
New Zealand	11	6	17
Argentina	14	0	14
Other	50	8	58
Total	412	125	537



European  
Commission

Horizon 2020  
European Union funding  
for Research & Innovation

# Grantees outside EU/AC at Application

## Mainly European researchers moving/returning from the US

Country of residence	International grantees	EU/AC nationals	Total
Argentina	1		1
Australia	1	6	7
Canada	3	5	8
China		1	1
India	1	1	2
Japan		2	2
Korea		1	1
Lebanon		1	1
Malaysia		1	1
Pakistan		1	1
Russia	1		1
Senegal		1	1
USA	43	113	156
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>183</b>

# Attracting Researchers to Europe



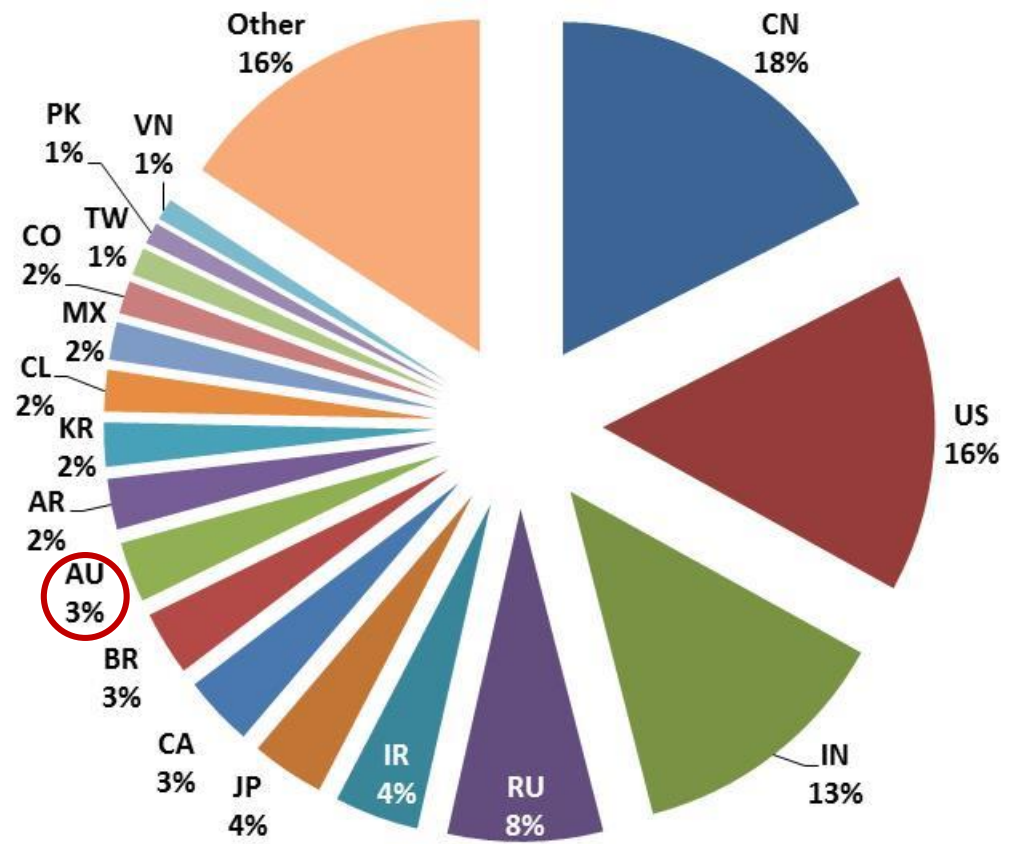
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Nationality of ERC project teams (PIs not included)  
Analysis of 1,901 Starting and Advanced Grants

**EU: 71%**  
**Assoc. Countries: 10%**  
**non-EU/AC: 17%**  
unknown: 2%

In all ERC grants  
**+ 9,000 non-EU/AC team members**  
most from  
**China, US, India, and Russia**

Australian team  
members represent  
**3% of the non-EU/AC**  
workforce



# Implementing arrangements

## Key Facts



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- Opportunity for **non-European researchers** supported by foreign agencies to visit ERC research teams (unilateral approach)
- The foreign researchers are supposed to be **excellent** ("national version" of the ERC grantee)
- The **foreign scientist** is the one taking the **initiative** in the "matchmaking" (it is not the ERC/the ERC PI/the foreign agency...)
- The **ERC does not intervene** in the selection of the foreign visitors
- In general terms, costs of the visit are **mostly covered** by the foreign agency

### Implementing arrangements signed with the following countries:

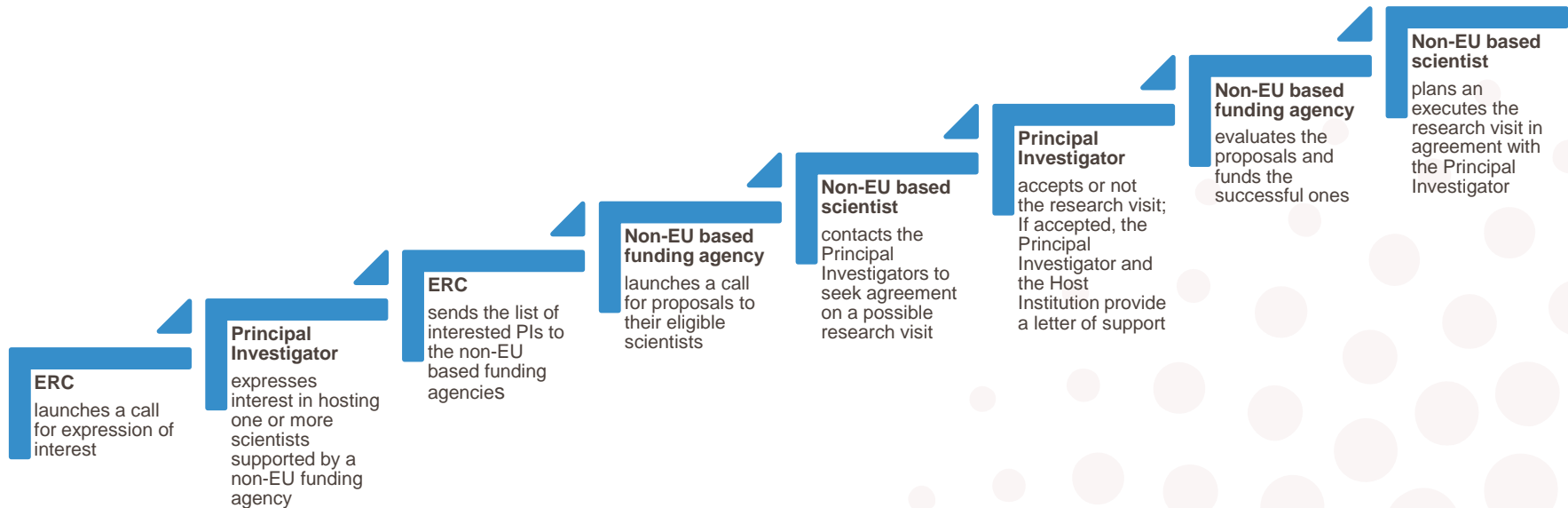
- USA (2012)
- Republic of Korea (2013)
- Argentina (2015)
- China (2015)
- Japan (2015)
- South Africa (2015)
- Mexico (2015)
- Brazil (2016)
- Canada (2016)

# Research visits to ERC projects

## Implementation mechanism



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- More information: [erc.europa.eu](http://erc.europa.eu)
- National Contact Point: [erc.europa.eu/national-contact-points](http://erc.europa.eu/national-contact-points)
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