Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the July edition of the EURAXESS Links Japan newsletter!

We have recently announced the deadlines for our two big incoming events:

- **Submissions of 3-minute videos until 21 September** for the **EURAXESS Science Slam Japan 2015**, 23 October, Tokyo Metropolitan University, and
- **Applications through abstracts until 2 October** for the **European Research(ers’) Day**, 11 December, Delegation of the EU to Japan, Tokyo.

Detailed event descriptions, full terms and conditions, and additional content is available, so go and check out the ELJ activities section of this newsletter, the related web pages, and our YouTube Channel for some video contents!

As usual, you will find in this document a wealth of information on Japanese and European S&T policies; as well as some of the numerous incoming calls and deadlines for cooperation or mobility!

Finally, this month’s EU insight is about the next stages of the EU research policy: Open Science, Innovation, and the European Research Area.

Enjoy the reading!

Wishing you some not-too-hot-and-humid summer months,

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http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess
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EU Insight – Conference: Opening up to an ERA of Innovation

On 22 and 23 June, over 600 scientists, innovators, and policy-makers gathered in Brussels, Belgium under the umbrella of the conference “A new start for Europe: Opening up to an ERA of Innovation” to discuss Open Science, the European Research Area, and Innovation. Bringing together key players from the fields of research, business and innovation, the conference provided an excellent opportunity to not only forge ideas on how to bring growth and jobs to Europe and to share views on the Innovation Union, but also to network with key stakeholders and decision-makers – and, ultimately, to shape the future of Europe’s research and innovation policy.¹

Commissioner Moedas’ opening speech: Strategic priorities to tackle Europe’s challenges – Open Innovation, Open Science, and Openness to the World²

On 22 June, Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation, opened the conference by summarising the achievements in respect to the creation of the European Research Area and researcher mobility, stating that mobility is becoming a normal part of the career of every researcher which is also underlined by the fact that around one in three EU researchers have been internationally mobile over the last 10 years. Furthermore, he highlighted the eight-fold increase in the number of jobs advertised on the EURAXESS site since 2007, with around 10,000 job offers on any given day.

“I see fantastic strengths in Europe. We are open, we have diversity, we host great institutions. With Horizon 2020, we are funding research on an unprecedented scale.”

Carlos Moedas
Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation

22 June 2015
Opening speech

http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess
However, Commissioner Moedas also recognized the three most pressing challenges Europe is facing, i.e. that Europe rarely succeeds in bringing research results to market, that Europe falls behind on the very best science in some areas despite generating more scientific output than any other region in the world, and that Europe punches below its weight in international science and science diplomacy.

To tackle these challenges, the commissioner focused on three strategic priorities, including 'openness to the world'. Here, he outlined his vision of creating not only a research area on a European scale, but a global research area: “This will not happen in one step, but through developing partnerships with other areas, such as China, Latin America and the United States. […] So, during my mandate I commit myself to launch and expand a series of international initiatives."

Live streaming, presentations and the programme

The conference’s website³ now hosts a number of presentations and speeches as well as the final programme of the conference. Also available are the session recordings of the live streaming, which can be accessed here.

Sources and further information


3 See footnote 1.
2 EURAXESS Links Japan activities

2.1 Meet the researcher: Interview with Kai Narita, EURAXESS Science Slam Japan Winner 2014

In mid-June (14th-17th), the six winners of the EURAXESS Science Slam 2014 came together in Bonn, Germany to claim their prize: a two-day science communication training; a trip to Brussels, Belgium to meet with European Commission officials involved in European and international research and innovation; and an individual meeting at a European research institution of their choice as a way to encourage and support their future scientific careers.

More than seven months earlier, Kai Narita (Tokyo Institute of Technology), Vanessa Cardoso Pires (University of Sao Paulo), Kurtis Baute (University of Guelph, ON, Canada), Anand Kant Das (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai), Yanting Wang (Peking University) and Bhamini Bhujun (University of Nottingham, Malaysia campus) participated in and won the EURAXESS Science Slams in their respective countries/regions. In the interview to follow, the winners recount their experiences taking part in and winning the EURAXESS Science Slam and how doing so has affected their burgeoning research careers.

Kai, tell us about your research background and interests.

My background is in material sciences. My research focuses on biomaterials using magnesium/calcium phosphate composites.

How did you learn about the EURAXESS Science Slam competition?

I attended the 1st EURAXESS Science Slam Japan in 2013 as an audience member, and I decided to show my research at Science Slam Japan 2014.

Why did you decide to participate?

I wanted to try showing my research to non-scientists. Moreover, the first prize, and the opportunities provided for the winner is very attractive, because building a connection with a scientist at an European institute in order to find a PhD position is not easy for a Japanese master's course student to do on their own.

Please tell EURAXESS Links Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made.

I showed my research of magnesium (Mg) as a new bone fixation wearing a Harry Potter costume. I started by comparing the philosopher’s stone (magic) and Mg (science) as a healing tool, and did some (I hope) funny experiments using Mg.

What did you find more challenging, preparing the pre-selection video or the live presentation?
Both the video and presentation time were very short. It was difficult for me to make them short while retaining important and entertaining points.

**What was your experience like as winner of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam?**

It was very impressive. I learned how my research can be interesting for non-scientists and researchers from other fields from the audience members’ reaction to my performance and other finalists’ presentations, which were very exciting.

**Would you recommend taking part in the Science Slam to other researchers? Why?**

Yes! Basically, science is not only for scientists but also for all people. I think, to learn how to show your research is very important in a researcher’s career, because you have many opportunities to explain your research to people who are not familiar with your science field; an interviewer for funding, collaborator of another field, even your parents!

Moreover, the Science Slam is fun!

**Are there any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?**

Go beyond just an explanation and presentation! Make it easy to be understood by your parents, and don’t forget that you can do any type of performance during the Science Slam.

**You were awarded a trip to Europe and met the other slammers from ASEAN, Brazil, China, India and North America. How was your training in scientific communication?**

I learned many things related to science communication from the training. I think that the study of science communication is usually conducted for a science communicator: a science administrator, science journalist, science curator of museum and so on. However, in this time, I learned science communication from the view of a researcher, which is very helpful for my research career.

**EURAXESS also funded your trip to visit to a European research institute of your choice. Which institute did you visit and who did you decide to meet? Why?**

I met some researchers at the Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces, in Potsdam, Germany: Dr Bertinetti, Dr Habraken and Dr Dunlop. The reason of the visit was to find a PhD position related to the work of biomimetic materials.

**Have you had any contact with European research before?**

Yes. I also visited the University of Cambridge and Imperial College London in UK.

**Would you now consider coming to Europe for either a short-term or long-term period to pursue a research career or additional studies?**

Yes! I would like to conduct my PhD research at one of the European institutes I visited.
You also had a meeting with the local EURAXESS Service Centre. What kind of information did you receive?

They help an international researcher concerning almost any aspect of life, from learning a language to dealing with the authorities.

Do you think that being a Science Slam winner had an influence on your ability to gain an appointment at your institution of choice?

Yes! It is difficult to even get a reply by just sending an e-mail to an institute in Europe from an unknown Japanese student. In particular, my current research and the topic which I am interested in for a PhD position are different. Thus, I think the influence of being a science slam winner was very high!

Thank you for your time!

2.1.1 Meet the researcher: Interview with EURAXESS Science Slam ASEAN Winner 2014 Bhamini Bhujun

Bhamini, please tell us about your research background and interests

My research deals with supercapacitors. These are energy storage devices that can charge in the space of seconds and retain the charge for several days. Supercapacitors aim at replacing batteries in the near future.

How did you learn about the EURAXESS Science Slam competition?

I was browsing the internet when I came across Jibby’s video (winner of EURAXESS ASEAN 2013). It was very interesting and I thought why not give it a try.

Why did you decide to participate?

I thought that this was an interesting platform where I can showcase my research to the general public.

Please tell EURAXESS Links Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made.

At first it was a bit stressful, because I was going to deliver a live presentation. However, after I met the other participants, the tension eased. They were all here to have fun while presenting their research.

What was the message that you wanted to deliver to the audience attending the live finals?

I wanted to engage with the audience by using their everyday lives. Almost everyone uses a smartphone and they could relate to the low-battery difficulty they experience everyday. I wanted to convince the audience that my research is definitely ground-breaking in terms of energy storage in electronic devices.

What did you find more challenging, preparing the pre-selection video or the live presentation?
Personally, the pre-selection video was more challenging because it was the first time I was making a video. I had to research on sound effects as well as graphics and efficiently incorporate my message in the video.

What was your experience like as winner of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam?

I did not expect it at all. There were some really awesome presentations and when I was announced as the winner, it took some time for the thought to register in my mind. After I finally realized that I am really the winner, I was exhilarated. The immediate thought was “Europe-here I come.”

Would you recommend taking part in the Science Slam to other researchers? Why?

Definitely! The Science Slam is an incredible experience. You get to meet other researchers and showcase your work in a relaxed, casual way. It also gives you the opportunity to step back from the scientific world and have a more general view of your work.

Are there any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?

Do not use any scientific jargon. The audience is not specialised in your field. And most importantly, remember have fun.

You were awarded a trip to Europe and met the other slammers from Brazil, China, India, Japan and North America. How was your training in scientific communication?

Meeting the other slammers was a fascinating experience. I got to learn about their research and experience different cultures. The two day training was interesting. The trainers were so passionate about their field and it was a fun learning experience.

EURAXESS also funded your trip to visit to a European research institute of your choice. Which institute did you visit and who did you decide to meet? Why?

I chose to visit the CNRS in France, since it is one of the leading research institutes in my field in Europe. My meeting was scheduled with Dr Patrice Simon, who is an expert in the field of supercapacitors.

Have you had any contact with European research before?

This was the first time I was visiting a research institute in Europe.

Would you now consider coming to Europe for either a short-term or long-term period to pursue a research career or additional studies?

I am definitely thinking of doing post-doc research at the CNRS. They are very specialised and they have a state of the art lab that would be a dream for any researcher.

You also had a meeting with the local EURAXESS Service Centre. What kind of information did you receive?
I met up with the EURAXESS service centre in Toulouse and I found a group of pleasant, research-focussed people. They gave me a general idea about the services they offer. These services aim at facilitating bureaucratic procedures for a researcher.

Do you think that being a Science Slam winner had an influence on your ability to gain an appointment at your institution of choice?

Being a Science Slam winner was an incredible experience. It opened doors to so many opportunities and most importantly, winning the Science Slam provided me with the opportunity of visiting my dream institution.

Thank you for your time!

2.1.2 Meet the researcher: Interview with EURAXESS Science Slam North America Winner 2014 Kurtis Baute

Kurtis, please tell us about your research background and interests.

Currently, I’m trying to turn plants into power, by researching a form of renewable energy called ‘biogas’. It’s a super interesting field, but my passion for science communication has overwhelmed me – it’s what I want to do next. I want to know what scientists can do to make their research more accessible, and that too will take research.

How did you learn about the EURAXESS Science Slam competition?

An email made its way through my university and reached me through a friend.

Why did you decide to participate?

I love making videos almost as much as I love science. Combine that with the fact that I don’t mind being a bit silly now and then, and submitting something to the competition became a no-brainer for me.

Please tell EURAXESS Links Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made.

My live slam was one part audience participation, one part song, two parts nerdy science jokes, and six parts just having fun.

What was the message that you wanted to deliver to the audience attending the live finals?

I wanted to help the audience see that the future of energy production is probably not as bleak as they thought, but also suggest that it might be weirder than they imagined.

What did you find more challenging, preparing the pre-selection video or the live presentation?

The live presentation was certainly trickier for me in some ways. I wasn’t sure if my slam was going to be too long or too short, and choosing what to leave in and take out was hard.
What was your experience like as winner of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam?

I would say: Wow. The whole experience has lead to being contacted by newspapers, put our lab in touch with other researchers, it definitely didn’t hurt in helping me get a science communication job, and it sent me off to Europe to meet and learn from some incredible people. It has been a game changer for me.

Would you recommend taking part in the Science Slam to other researchers? Why?

Yes, of course! Do it! Worst case scenario, you tried something new and learned some things. Best case scenario, you are suddenly in Europe thinking about how your life has changed.

Are there any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?

Just go for it. Be yourself, have fun, and know that looking a bit silly is not only ‘OK’, it's basically encouraged.

You were awarded a trip to Europe and met the other slammers from ASEAN, Brazil, China, India and Japan. How was your training in scientific communication?

The training was excellent. I learned a ton from the speakers, and became part of a growing community of enthusiastic scientists.

EURAXESS also funded your trip to visit to a European research institute of your choice. Which institute did you visit and who did you decide to meet? Why?

I went off to the University of Copenhagen to meet with Jan Sølberg in the department of Science Education. Of all of Europe, I chose to go there because it seemed like the sort of city I could see myself living in at some point (did you know there are 1.8 bikes per person there?), and because it had a prestigious research group that I was interested in meeting.

Have you had any contact with European research before?

I have had only a very brief introduction to a European research group before, and not in the field of science education.

Would you now consider coming to Europe for either a short-term or long-term period to pursue a research career or additional studies?

Definitely. If and when I decide to start my PhD, Europe will be on the top of my wish list.

You also had a meeting with the local EURAXESS Service Centre. What kind of information did you receive?

The main thing I learned in meeting with the EURAXESS service centre representative in Copenhagen is that there is a huge amount of support. You don’t have to go through the process of applying and moving to Europe on your own.
Do you think that being a Science Slam winner had an influence on your ability to gain an appointment at your institution of choice?

Yup! Once I managed to make contact with the researchers there and once they knew I had won a contest for all of North America and chose to visit them, of all of Europe, they were definitely keen to meet me. However, I learned that I had to be a bit careful about keeping my emails out of spam boxes, because apparently this prize is unbelievable even to computers.

Thank you for your time!

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2.1.3 Meet the researcher: Interview with EURAXESS Science Slam India Winner 2014 Anand kant Das

Anand, please tell us about your research background and interests

After completing my Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Chemistry from St Stephen's college, Delhi, India, I joined the Integrated-Masters of Science (Biological Sciences) and Ph.D. (Neuroscience and Biophysics) program at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai, India. At present, I am a senior PhD scholar working in the Biophotonics laboratory of Prof Sudipta Maiti where we investigate biophysically tractable problems using sensitive tools.

My present research focuses on the key steps which underlie debilitating neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. A better understanding of the disease mechanism will help us gather leads for designing effective therapeutics. I use a variety of very sensitive biophysical tools and techniques to probe damage of nerve cells in these diseases. In addition to this, I have a passion for science writing and communication and independently maintain a science blog by the name ‘Artha-meaning-of-Life’.

How did you learn about the EURAXESS Science Slam competition?

I first time heared about the science slam was when I first encountered a beautiful poster on the notice board of TIFR announcing the EURAXESS Science Slam competition. In addition to this, quite a few emails were circulated by the institute briefing on the nature of the contest. I went online and decided to explore the do’s and don’ts of science slamming and this is how I got an idea of what slamming is all about.

Why did you decide to participate?

I believe that there exists a wide gap between the research and innovations which take place in laboratories and what reaches the interested public. The only way to bridge the gap is science communication. It is an effective way to disseminate scientific knowledge and explain the wider relevance of scientific findings to societies. A science slam is a very powerful and entertaining way to communicate scientific research and this motivated me to participate in the event. In addition, the first prize—a trip to Europe, for the slam winner looked very tempting.
Please tell EURAXESS Links Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made.

I work on proteins which are believed to cause damage to brain circuits in Alzheimer's disease. This malady of Alzheimer's is so devastating that the principle memory centre of the brain gets damaged and eventually the other key areas of the brain are also paralyzed. The worst symptom of the disease arrives late but comes with a bang. One loses memory of everything including one's own name. It looks as if in the canvas of life, relationships and societies one has lost oneself. To be precise, one has forgotten one's own identity, experiences of life and everything what we call a collective memory of us and hence my talk was titled as 'A forgotten life…'.

I delivered a 10 min slam (see picture above) in front of a lively and enthusiastic audience at Café Zoe in Mumbai. It was a tough job but a great learning experience for me. The show was extremely well organized and professionally managed. I thoroughly enjoyed the event and learnt a lot of interesting science from fellow slammers.

In my own slam, I tried to explain the complexity of the human brain by giving proper anecdotes and examples. I briefly talked about how nerve cells talk to each other and the importance of such communications for normal brain functions. If the information transfer is disrupted, then brain functions is affected. Such is the fatal turn of events in Alzheimer’s disease that one’s own proteins, Amyloid-β, turn rogue, form gangs and attack nerve cells disrupting communication between nerve cells; thus leading to damage of the memory center of the brain. My own research has lead to identification of two key parts of this protein, the fold region which is important for attaching to nerve cells, and the leg region of the protein which pulls the toxic trigger. Targeting these two regions could, in principle, lead to advanced therapeutics. I made use of a power-point presentation, videos, brain models and other props to bring out the excitement of my research to the non-expert audience.

What was the message that you wanted to deliver to the audience attending the live finals?

My message to the audience can be summarised in three key ideas:

1. The brain is very complex. Communication between nerve cells is most important for brain function.
2. Certain self-proteins turn rogue and can cause deficits in nerve communication.
3. Alzheimer’s disease causing Aβ protein can attack nerve cells with its bum region and pulls triggers with its legs. These two regions can principally be targeted in reducing brain damage in Alzheimer's disease.

What did you find more challenging, preparing the pre-selection video or the live presentation?

The live presentation was more challenging because there was no scope for retake. Additionally, you cannot overshoot the allotted time.
What was your experience like as winner of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam?

The experience can’t be summarized in a few words. It was a very enriching, entertaining and a great learning experience for me. I got to interact not only with fellow speakers but also with the audiences and guests during the networking dinner. The ambience of the café, the aroma of the food and of course the slam sessions made my evening. Thank you EURAXESS for organizing such a lovely event. Three cheers to the team and management.

Would you recommend taking part in the Science Slam to other researchers? Why?

Yes, in brief I recommend the slam in the strongest possible words. I think more and more researchers should come out of their laboratories and share their research with society (the principle source of research - public money) and make them understand how the public money is being used to do useful and exciting science. Science communication will bridge a lot of gaps and also enthuse people with rational and scientific thought processes. Slamming is a fun way to communicate and I wish good luck to all the slammers in near future.

Are there any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?

Science communication is not that easy, particularly when the complexity and the relevance of one’s own research needs to be explained to a lay person. Nevertheless, it is a fun and necessary exercise because as you prepare to explain your work, it gives you a sense of ownership and increases your confidence as you reach out to the public. Chalk out the key aims of your project in three basic ideas and then spend time thinking of ways to simplify these without going wrong on the scientific side or over claiming the findings.

You were awarded a trip to Europe and met the other slammers from ASEAN, Brazil, China, Japan and North America. How was your training in scientific communication?

Meeting fellow slammers from different parts of the world was great fun. The two-day science communication training programme was one of the best training workshops I have ever attended. The trainers were stalwarts in the field. The workshop was highly useful and covered different aspects of communication. It was very interactive in nature and comprised of different modules which taught us a lot.

EURAXESS also funded your trip to visit to a European research institute of your choice. Which institute did you visit and who did you decide to meet? Why?

I opted for Cambridge University, UK and went on to meet Prof Maria Grazia Spillantini and Prof Peter St George-Hyslop. They are leading researchers in the field of neurodegenerative diseases, an area which is of immense interest to me.

Have you had any contact with European research before?
This was the first time I made contact with European researchers. Prior to this trip, I had only read about their work but had no contact with them. Thanks to EURAXESS, I could meet not only experts from Cambridge University but also make a private trip to Gottingen, Paris, Vienna etc and meet leading researchers from these universities.

Would you now consider coming to Europe for either a short-term or long-term period to pursue a research career or additional studies?

My trip to Europe was a life changing experience for me. It was a very successful and satisfying trip. I could meet, discuss and network with leading European scientists and policy makers. I was lucky enough to bag a few post doctoral positions and have finally decided to take up a post doctoral position at Vienna University of Technology.

You also had a meeting with the local EURAXESS Service Centre. What kind of information did you receive?

I met Dr Joy Warde at Cambridge. She was very helpful and kind. I discussed at length with her about different funding schemes which exists for researchers, accommodation and things related to a long term stay at Cambridge.

Do you think that being a Science Slam winner had an influence on your ability to gain an appointment at your institution of choice?

Yes, definitely it did. I could communicate with confidence and clarity with leading European scientists. This eventually led me to post doc offers at various leading laboratories in Europe.

Thank you for your time!

2.1.4 Meet the researcher: Interview with EURAXESS Science Slam Brazil Winner 2014 Vanessa Cardoso Pires

Vanessa, please tell us about your research background and interests

At the beginning of my research career, I was interested in investigating the effects of functional foods on male reproduction. Following this interest, I worked with green tea and grape juice. However, when I finished my Master's degree, I wanted to open my mind to new areas. For this reason, I went to the US to learn more about natural products on cancer prevention and treatment, but this was not exactly what I wanted to work on. So, in my PhD project, I had the opportunity to put together the topics of male reproduction, functional foods and cancer, in an amazing and new area called maternal and paternal programming. Finally, my currently research project is focused on investigating the effects of maternal and/or paternal blackberry extract consumption on breast cancer risk in female offspring.

How did you learn about the EURAXESS Science Slam competition?

I learned about the EURAXESS Science Slam on Facebook.
Why did you decide to participate?

I decided to participate in this competition because I and other friends created a group about science communication in Brazil (GATU), mainly due to the difficulty that some professors have in transmitting knowledge. However, we had no idea about how relevant this topic is around the world, since in Brazil this has no great importance.

Please tell EURAXESS Links Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made.

In my live presentation, I represented Death. She talked about her life and the difficulty of doing her job, which is to induce breast cancer in women, mainly because of research on the prevention of breast cancer before one is born through parents’ food intake. She was desperate and searching for a new opportunity in life in Europe.

What was the message that you wanted to deliver to the audience attending the live finals?

The most important thing in the final is to relax, enjoy this unique moment and have fun.

What did you find more challenging, preparing the pre-selection video or the live presentation?

The live presentation was more challenging because you need to transmit the principal message about your research project to a non-expert audience, that is not easy, and holding everyone’s attention using funny tools.

What was your experience like as winner of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam?

I can say that was a unique experience, not only the European trip (that was wonderful), but I also had the opportunity to show my research project on a TV show; radio; the website of my university; a lot of blogs, etc. I have been able enjoy good visibility to present a little of the big research world in Brazil.

Would you recommend taking part in the Science Slam to other researchers? Why?

Definitely yes! This is a great opportunity to develop abilities that in the academic environment, in general, is not allowed.

Are there any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?

If their grandparents and parents could understand their research project, probably is because is it easy to understand. I think this is the principal thing in the EURAXESS Science Slam. Other thing is: have fun!

You were awarded a trip to Europe and met the other slammers from ASEAN, China, India, Japan and North America. How was your training in scientific communication?
The training in scientific communication was wonderful! Not only because the course was extremely intense and productive, but also the opportunity to work with the other slammers. I was able to learn a little about each country and what the research area there is like.

EURAXESS also funded your trip to visit a European research institute of your choice. Which institute did you visit and who did you decide to meet? Why?

I decided to visit the University of Cambridge because one of the most important research groups in my area is located there.

Have you had any contact with European research before?

Yes, I have participated in a workshop at my university in partnership with the University of Cambridge. But the experience to be in the European research environment is irreplaceable.

Would you now consider coming to Europe for either a short-term or long-term period to pursue a research career or additional studies?

Yes. During my visit in Europe, I could see how much greater the investment is in research compared to Brazil. It is really different and much better than in my country.

You also had a meeting with the local EURAXESS Service Centre. What kind of information did you receive?

I have received a lot of information about different ways to apply to a post-doc programme at the University of Cambridge; what kind of assistance they have; the cost of living in Cambridge and the benefits of studying there.

Do you think that being a Science Slam winner had an influence on your ability to gain an appointment at your institution of choice?

I think so, because I could show my possible future boss more abilities than we can learn in academia. Maybe this can be a differentiator between me and other candidates.

Thank you for your time!

2.1.5 Meet the researcher: Interview with EURAXESS Science Slam China Winner 2014 Yanting Wang

Yanting, please tell us about your research background and interests

Molecular mechanisms underlying opioid addiction and looking for novel biological targets for prevention and treatment of opioid addiction.

How did you learn about the EURAXESS Science Slam competition?

I learned about it from the website of Peking University (posted by the Office of International Relations).

Why did you decide to participate?
First of all, it is very different from most scientific presentations, and the main purpose is to create fun from science. Secondly, I like making speeches, but I never tried to amuse the general public in a scientific context. This was a challenge for me, but attracted me a lot. Thirdly, I hoped that my presentation might change some people’s perspectives about science.

Please tell EURAXESS Links Newsletter readers about the live presentation that you made.

The topic of my live presentation is “A story about addiction: How can rats help us?” I began with a short self-made video to attract people’s interest in addiction and let people have a general idea about what my research is. Then I told people what problem I would like to solve and how I tried to solve it. Finally, I ended my presentation with a short rap to stress the significance of this research and my expectation about new medication for prevention and treatment of addiction.

What was the message that you wanted to deliver to the audience attending the live finals?

There is a lot of fun in science and scientists can, sometimes, be very interesting.

What did you find more challenging, preparing the pre-selection video or the live presentation?

The live presentation was much more challenging.

What was your experience like as winner of the 2nd global EURAXESS Science Slam?

It was a memorable event in my post graduate career. It is still a very fresh memory for me, especially those days when my friends and I discussed every detail about the final presentation.

Would you recommend taking part in the Science Slam to other researchers? Why?

I would recommend every researcher who is truly interested in science to participate, because it is an opportunity for us to see science in a new perspective.

Are there any tips that you would like to give to prospective EURAXESS Science Slam participants?

1. Prepare well.
2. Speak loudly.
3. Be passionate.
4. Never think about winning or losing; just think about the presentation itself.

You were awarded a trip to Europe and met the other slammers from ASEAN, Brazil, India, Japan and North America. How was your training in scientific communication?

I enjoyed the science communication training and doing related exercises together with other winners from diversified backgrounds, and I learned about
some skills in this field. It is very useful to me and it is also a possible career path for researches.

**EURAXESS also funded your trip to visit to a European research institute of your choice. Which institute did you visit and who did you decide to meet? Why?**

I visited Dr Hamid Noori at the Central Institute of Mental Health, at the University of Heidelberg. The reasons are that first of all, my interest is on addiction, and second of all, I am very interested in in-silico pharmacology, which is a new discipline allowing people to make treatment predictions without experimental efforts and to push drug repurposing to a novel level. Dr Noori is an expert in in-silico pharmacology and his research interest is also drug addiction. Therefore, I decided to visit him.

**Have you had any contact with European research before?**

Yes, I once participated in an international exchange programme hosted by Copenhagen University.

**Would you now consider coming to Europe for either a short-term or long-term period to pursue a research career or additional studies?**

Yes, I would like to.

**You also had a meeting with the local EURAXESS Service Centre. What kind of information did you receive?**

The meeting with the local EURAXESS service centre in Mannheim was not possible. But I met the staff of the German EURAXESS Bridgehead Organisation. I consulted with them about German classes and it seems that there are many choices for international researchers to learn German in Germany.

**Do you think that being a Science Slam winner had an influence on your ability to gain an appointment at your institution of choice?**

I think so.

**Thank you for your time!**

### 2.2 EURAXESS Science Slam Japan 2015

We are proud to announce that the third edition of the EURAXESS Science Slam Japan finals will be hosted by the Tokyo Metropolitan University on 23 October afternoon.

Located in Hachioji town, the Tokyo Metropolitan University campus is a three-minute walk from the Minami-Osawa station, only 45 minutes away from Shinjuku by train!
2.2.1 The call for submission of videos for the pre-selection of finalists is open until 21 September!

Young and less young researchers, PhD and master students with a current research activity, any nationality, any discipline including social sciences and humanities: this science communication contest is for you!

2.2.2 To participate: very simple!

- Be creative and entertaining, and explain your research project in a 3-minute video that should be representative of your slam at the finals,

- Follow instructions on our webpage and send the file to us!

2.2.3 Novelty this year: sub-events! Report on the Tokyo Tech Science Slam

This year, we are also co-organising several sub-events at specific universities in the Tokyo area. This way, we offer students and researchers at these universities a second chance to qualify for the finals!

In 2015, these sub-events are to be held at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, the University of Tokyo and Tokyo Metropolitan University.

The first of these events took place on June 26: the Tokyo Tech Science Slam.
After an internal pre-selection, six Tokyo Tech slammers participated in the event and presented their research in their own, original way. Thanks a lot to them!

The audience, composed of about 30 students, researchers and professors had to debate in order to decide on a ranking based on the four usual EURAXESS Science Slam criteria: accessibility, style, concept and originality.

It was a tough call, but the winner unanimously elected by all voting groups was Mr Muhammad FAJAR, Master's student at the Research Laboratory for Nuclear Reactors.

Congratulations to Mr FAJAR, and best of luck to him for the final event in October, where he is automatically invited!

Check the pictures of the event on our website!

The video of the slams will also be available soon!
The next sub-slam will take place at the University of Tokyo on 6 August. If you are from this institution and you’re interested in participating or attending, you can learn more on the UTokyo Science Slam webpage!

2.3 European Research(ers’) Day, 11 December, Tokyo

This will be the very first edition of our event targeting the community of European researchers in Japan: the European Research(ers’) Day will give you an opportunity to showcase your research work, to discuss your career experience and to get insights and tips on how to improve it, to network within the European Diaspora (and beyond…) in Japan!

The event will take the form of a full-day workshop on 11 December 2015.

Features of the event:

- A short session on possibilities with Europe (funding/cooperation/mobility/relocation),
- Presentation and poster sessions by European researchers on: their research work, their career and personal experience especially in Japan; and their future plans (in relation to Europe when relevant),
- One or several discussion panels/sessions on researcher careers and mobility/challenges of relocating to Europe,
- A networking reception.

The main part of the event will be the presentations given by the researchers themselves (you!!): 15 to 20 speakers and 5 to 10 posters, from a wide range of disciplines, profiles and countries within the EU-28.

To be eligible you must:

- Be a national from one of the EU-28 countries,
- Currently have an affiliation with a Japanese research institution, university, or have an R&D position at a company based in Japan,
- Be able to attend the event on 11 December 2015 in Tokyo (Delegation of the EU to Japan).

To apply, send us your abstract before October 2nd!

Further instructions on our webpage!
2.4 EURAXESS Links Japan Tour 2015: Waseda University seminar report, 17 July

The fourth stage of the EURAXESS Links Japan Tour 2015 was hosted by Waseda University on 17 July.

The almost 75 attendees experienced a full programme, with a focus on the Japanese research landscape and its need for more globalization, a thorough overview of the European programmes for research cooperation and mobility by the Delegation of the EU to Japan and NCP Japan, a presentation by the EURAXESS services in Europe and in Japan, and a speech by JSPS on its new policies toward international cooperation and mobility (see the Japan news section in the previous edition of the newsletter).

Waseda University opened this seminar through an enlighten welcome address by Executive Vice-President Prof. Hashimoto, and through a very interesting and original discussion panel during which several Waseda University professors provided the audience with tips and how-to knowledge for successful international cooperation projects in research in natural sciences (robotics) as well as in social sciences (policy research).

Finally, discussion was encouraged among participants and attendees during the networking session, which was held in the new Nishi-Waseda campus buildings, right next to a couple of robots learning how to play badminton!

We are very much looking forward to further editions of this tour!
3 News & Developments

3.1 EU, Member States and Associated Countries

3.1.1 Investment Plan for Europe: European Fund for Strategic Investments adds firepower to Horizon 2020 for innovative SMEs

The European Commission has put the final building blocks in place to kick-start investment in the real economy. A package of measures agreed on 22 July will ensure that the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) is up and Jean-Claude Juncker to implement the Investment Plan for Europe.

Globally, the EFSI SME Window is expected to support at least EUR 30 billion of investments carried out by innovative SMEs and small mid-caps.

In the context of the Horizon 2020 InnovFin facilities, a new pilot scheme run under the InnovFin SME Venture Capital facility, which will co-finance investments by business angels (BAs) in innovative SMEs and small midcaps that predominantly aim to commercialize new ICT-related products and services.

The aim of this pilot is to help overcome the deficiencies of the BAs financing environment by providing equity stakes in funds aiming to co-invest with or managed by BAs for the ultimate benefit of innovative SMEs and small midcaps located in the Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020, with a particular focus on Central and Easter Europe. With an initial EU financial contribution of EUR 30 million, this pilot is expected to generate an amount of up to EUR 120 million of investments.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

3.1.2 ICT innovation: SMEs make best use of EU research funding

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are champions of EU research programmes: they deliver 41% of the high potential innovations generated in ICT-related EU-funded research and innovation projects, despite accounting for a mere 14% of the total funding. However, greater focus on technology than on business strategies is one of the main bottlenecks when it comes to getting these innovations to the market.

These are some of the findings of the Innovation Radar survey which analysed information and communication technology (ICT) research and innovation projects funded by two European research programmes: the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) and Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). The survey was conducted by the JRC.

Other findings include:
Germany, Spain and the UK host the highest number of organisations identified as key innovators (17%, 12.3% and 12% respectively) and are trailed by Italy (10.9%) and France (9.6%). As for cities, Barcelona tops the list by hosting 19 innovative organisations (universities, innovative SMEs, start-ups), followed by London and Paris with 17 each, and Milan with 16.

However, reaching the market is not a smooth process for innovators: a quarter of already mature innovations are not yet being exploited. Among these, half were assessed as being innovations with high market potential. Nearly 70% of the innovations surveyed are to be brought to market within two years. Currently, 10% of all innovations are already being exploited, either on the market or internally by a partner organisation.

Read more (Source: ERC)

3.1.3 Horizon 2020 project information now available on CORDIS

CORDIS is continuing its role as the European Commission's primary public repository, containing over 100,000 EU-funded research projects and results stretching back 25 years and now extending its services to Horizon 2020 projects.

The first Horizon 2020 grants were signed in 2014 and hundreds of new projects are being added each month. CORDIS retrieves its information from the grant agreements, publishing for each project its acronym, costs, topic, funding scheme, objectives, coordinating and participating organisations, including the EC contribution for each beneficiary. Horizon 2020 projects can currently be found through their programme area and topic but further information is planned to be added, including project websites, contact persons and cross-cutting domains. A more thematic approach to information will also be explored.

The publishable reports from Horizon 2020 projects will also be made available on CORDIS in the future, alongside the thousands of Report Summaries currently being submitted by projects funded under FP7, the previous framework programme. The publication of these reports is followed by multilingual Results in Brief for each project and coverage in the free research*eu results magazine – making it easier to identify exploitable results and opportunities for innovation.

CORDIS focuses on research results but if you are interested in participating in an EU-funded project, you can find everything you need on the Participant Portal: funding calls, reference documents, submission of proposals, expert evaluators and project management and reporting. You can also find out more about the current 2014-2020 framework programme on the Horizon 2020 website.

Read more (Source: European Commission)
3.1.4 ERC Advanced Grants: EUR 445 million from the EU to 190 senior research leaders

The European Research Council (ERC) has announced the award of its prestigious Advanced Grants to 190 senior researchers. The funding, worth in total EUR 445 million, will enable them and their teams to pursue ground-breaking ideas. These are the first ERC Advanced Grants awarded under the ‘excellent science’ pillar of Horizon 2020, the EU’s research and innovation programme launched in 2014.

The grantees will work on a wide range of topics and will follow many different approaches as the ERC supports frontier research in all areas of knowledge in a very open format.

ERC grants are awarded to researchers of any nationality based in, or willing to move to, Europe. In this competition, researchers of 23 different nationalities received the funding, with British (38), German (33), Dutch (18), French (17) and Italian (16) researchers awarded the highest number of grants.

The new ERC projects will be hosted in 17 countries across Europe, with the United Kingdom (45 grants), Germany (29) and France (23) as top locations.

Read more (Source: ERC)

3.1.5 New Trends in Open Science

Open Science is a broad term, covering the many exciting developments in how science is becoming more open, accessible, efficient, democratic, and transparent. This Open Science revolution is being driven by new, digital tools for scientific collaboration, experiments and analysis and which make scientific knowledge more easily accessible by professionals and the general public, anywhere, at any time.

At the Competitiveness Council, which took place from 28-29 May 2015, the European Research ministers agreed on the development of a European Open Science Agenda under the European Research Area. In its conclusions, the Council called for open, data-intensive and networked research and emphasised the importance of developing e-infrastructures.

A public consultation on Science 2.0/open science was held between July and September 2014 to gather the opinions of a broad sample of interested parties from across the EU research landscape. The final report has been published.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

3.1.6 Information Day on Horizon 2020 'Environment & Resource Efficiency'

The European Commission is organising an Information Day on 21 September 2015 in Brussels to present the 2016 work programme of Horizon 2020’s Societal Challenge "Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials" as well as related call topics in the "Blue Growth -
Demonstrating an Ocean of Opportunities”, “Industry 2020 in the Circular Economy” and “Smart and Sustainable Cities” focus areas.

The morning plenary session will focus on the general strategy behind the new work programme also providing guidance on the preparation of proposals. During the afternoon sessions participants will then have plenty of opportunities to network and find project partners. If you wish to attend, please register in advance via our website (first come, first served).

Sessions will also be web-streamed and you are welcome to submit your questions via Twitter using #H2020SC5.

Further information here.

3.1.7 Info Day on the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2016-2017 'Smart, green and integrated transport'

The Information Day to be held on 5 November 2015 in Brussels will target potential applicants to the calls for project proposals under the Horizon 2020 challenge ‘Smart, green and integrated transport’.

Presentations will cover the Work Programme for 2016-2017 and the application procedure, as well as detailed information on the calls. Participants will have networking opportunities throughout the day.

More information and the agenda will follow. Compulsory registration for the event will open in September.

Further information here.

3.2 Japan

3.2.1 MEXT initiative for gender equality in higher education

After a call to contributions earlier this year, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) selected 7 universities that have proposed projects to support women researchers in developing their careers, including life-work balance. It also selected 5 projects proposed by consortia, each consisting of three Japanese universities.

The 7 selected universities will receive a JPY 30 million (EUR 225,000) grant and each consortium JPY 60 million (EUR 450,000) per year for a period of 5 to 6 years.

This is the second edition of this MEXT programme that was established to improve the career development for women researchers in Japan which lags behind other countries.

The selected institutions are: Toyama, Okayama, Kyushu, Nagasaki and Ryukyu’s Universities (all national universities); Osaka Prefecture University and the Kosen National Institute of Technology.
3.2.2 MEXT Research Misconduct Guidelines


The first MEXT guidelines were established in 2007 just before the OECD Research Misconduct Meeting was held in Tokyo and revised in 2014. The research misconduct incident that brought nation-wide distrust in science in 2014 has moved MEXT to make the guidelines clearer and remind all the research institutions to be vigilant in research integrity training. The research institutions can establish their own guidelines based on the MEXT guidelines.

Source: MEXT

3.2.3 K computer takes first place in Graph 500 supercomputer ranking

A collaboration between RIKEN, the Tokyo Institute of Technology, University College Dublin, Kyushu University, and Fujitsu has again won top place for the K computer in the June 2015 Graph 500 supercomputer ranking.

The Graph 500 ranking seeks to gauge the ability of supercomputers on data-intensive loads, with the goal of improving computing involving complex data problems in areas such as cybersecurity, medical informatics, data enrichment, social networks, symbolic networks, and modelling neuronal circuits in the brain.

Kimihiko Hirao, Director of the RIKEN Advanced Institute for Computational Science, says, "We are very happy to have received this award. The K computer has consistently shown itself to be a very powerful instrument for data-intensive loads, performing well in this category. We plan to continue to use the computer’s power to take on projects involving modelling processes that take place in the real world, contributing where possible to the improvement of society."

Source: RIKEN

3.2.4 Revised reforms look to universities for entrepreneurship

The Japanese government plans to establish a system of “specified research universities” that would collaborate more easily with start-up companies, as one of its measures in the upcoming revision of the economic growth strategy. The government wants to increase the degree of freedom for universities to foster human resources capable of playing key roles in
technological innovation. This aims to attract human resources at home and abroad who can engage in world-class research and development projects.

By making the universities conduct joint studies with start-up companies, the system will also encourage the establishment of new companies originating from the universities.

Source: Japan News

3.3 Cooperation EU - Japan

3.3.1 German Innovation Award 2015 Awards Presented

During a festive award ceremony at the Grand Hyatt Hotel Tokyo, awards were presented to the winners of the German Innovation Award - Gottfried Wagener Prize 2015 on Tuesday, 30 June, 2015. The competition, organised by the German Research and Innovation Forum Tokyo and the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan, featured four categories.

The winners were Prof. Dr. Shinichi Komaba, Tokyo University of Science, in the area of Mobility, Dr. Hossein Sepehri-Amin, National Institute for Materials Science, together with team member Dr. Takahiro Akiya, National Institute for Materials Science, in the area of Materials, Prof. Dr. Takuro Ideguchi, The University of Tokyo, in the area of Life Sciences and Dr. Yoshitaka Tateyama, National Institute for Materials Science, with team member Dr. Keitaro Sodeyama, Kyoto University, in the area of Energy & Industry.

The winners received a prize of JPY 2,5 million (EUR 185,000) and a short-term scholarship at a university or research institute in Germany.

Around 250 invited guests from academia, industry, politics and media attended the award ceremony at the Grand Hyatt Tokyo. The award ceremony was followed by a reception that gave the winners and the guests the opportunity to celebrate this festive occasion.

Source: German Research and Innovation Tokyo
4 Grants & Fellowships

4.1 European Union

4.1.1 Open calls under Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is the largest EU research and innovation programme ever. Almost EUR 80 billion in funding is available over seven years (2014 to 2020), in addition to the private and national investment that this money will attract.

Access all 32 open calls on the Horizon 2020 Participant Portal.

Please note that the calls are allocated to the three pillars of Horizon 2020:

- **Excellent Science**: Around EUR 3 billion, including EUR 1.7 billion for grants from the European Research Council for top scientists, and EUR 800 million for Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowships for younger researchers.

- **Industrial Leadership**: EUR 1.8 billion to support Europe's industrial leadership in areas like ICT, nanotechnologies, advanced manufacturing, robotics, biotechnologies and space.

- **Societal Challenges**: EUR 2.8 billion for innovative projects addressing Horizon 2020's seven societal challenges, broadly thematised as: health; agriculture, maritime and bioeconomy; energy; transport; climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials; reflective societies; and security.

4.1.2 JEUPISTE project support actions for H2020

The JEUPISTE project aims at promoting EU-Japan cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation through support to policy dialogues, deployment of bilateral information services, organisation of networking events focusing on specific technologies and/or societal challenges, operation of help desk services (in cooperation with NCP Japan) and contribution to the development of human resources for collaborative projects.

The JEUPISTE project can help if you need advice or information regarding Horizon 2020 and Europe-Japan cooperation.

Further information: JEUPISTE

To find out more about EU funding opportunities for your research or innovation project please visit the European Commission's Participant Portal where all calls are published.

International researchers are also invited to join the database of independent experts for European research and innovation. Distinguished specialists are strongly encouraged to join the database of independent experts, through which they can participate in the evaluation of project proposals and monitoring of actions, submitted under Horizon 2020.
4.1.3 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions:

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) support research training and career development focused on innovation skills. The programme funds worldwide and cross-sector mobility that implements excellent research in any field (a “bottom-up” approach).

Through various streams, MSCAs support researcher mobility at different stages of their career:

- **International Training Network (ITN)** for PhD studies (for Japanese candidates mostly through application via the EURAXESS Jobs database -“more filters” tab, →”Marie Curie” link),
- **Individual Fellowships (IF)** for postdoctoral fellowships or research stays (without age limit),
- **Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)** for repeated short research stays over a several years span.

Open and upcoming MSCA calls:

**Individual Fellowships** (closing 10 September)
**COFUND** (closing 2 October)

Follow Marie in video and learn more about the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions on our YouTube channel!

4.1.4 European Research Council grants

The European Research Council’s (ERC) mission is to encourage the highest quality of research in Europe and to support investigator-driven frontier research across all fields, on the basis of scientific excellence through competitive funding.

Being ‘bottom-up’ in nature, the ERC approach allows researchers to identify new opportunities and directions in any field of research, rather than being led by priorities set by politicians. It is a highly competitive funding scheme (10% success rate on average for Starting and Consolidator grants, 14% for Advanced grants).

Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for a European Research Council (ERC) grant to come to Europe and conduct research (for at least 50% of their working time). Currently, over 300 ERC grantees out of nearly 4,000 are non-Europeans. Research teams set up by ERC grantees are highly international – an estimated 20% of team members are non-Europeans.

Open and forthcoming ERC calls:

**ERC Proof of Concept** (deadline 1 October)
4.1.5 Interested in hosting a Japanese researcher within your ERC team?

The European Research Council Executive Agency signed an Implementing Arrangement with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) on 29 May 2015.

Under this arrangement, ERC will provide opportunities for recipients of JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists to pursue research collaboration with European colleagues already supported by the ERC.

A first ERC Call for expression of interest to ERC PIs and teams is expected to be launched later in 2015, so that the first Japanese visits may take place in 2016.

Further information here.

4.1.6 Erasmus+ Joint Master Degrees and Joint Doctorates

Erasmus+ Joint master degrees (JMD) and Joint Doctorates (JD) are offered by international consortia of higher education institutions.

A JMD corresponds to a high-level integrated international study programme of 60, 90 or 120 ECTS (corresponding to one or two years of studies). Students at master’s level can apply for these degrees which take place in at least two of the programme countries represented in the consortium. 121 different consortia are proposing JMDs. Between approximately 13 and 20 student scholarship holders and 4 invited scholars/guest, lecturers can take part in each programme annually. In addition to the student scholarship holders, self-funded students can enrol.

JDs are doctoral-level training and research programmes and offer fellowships covering up to three years of doctoral activities. 29 consortia are proposing JDs in various fields.

Deadlines: various (depending on each consortium’s rules for application)

Joint Master Degrees: further information here, list of the consortia here

Joint Doctorates: further information and list of consortia here

4.1.7 Come to Europe! EURAXESS ERC, MSCA and Erasmus+ brochure

A new EURAXESS brochure: “Come to Europe!” presenting a few bullet points on the three main European opportunities for researcher mobility (ERC, MSCA and Erasmus+) is available online on our website.

Please check it out and share with your colleagues!
4.1.8 EMBO Fellowships

The European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) brings together more than 1,500 leading researchers from 27 Member States and promotes excellence in the life sciences.

Young scientists actively seek EMBO Long-Term Fellowships for postdoctoral research to fund their internationally mobile careers. Hundreds of scientists also benefit each year from EMBO Short-Term Fellowships, returning to their home laboratories with new skills as well as contacts for future collaborations.

EMBO Long-Term Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years and support postdoctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe. International exchange is a key feature in the application process.

Short-Term Fellowships fund research visits of up to three months to laboratories in Europe. The aim is to facilitate valuable collaborations with research groups applying techniques that are unavailable in the applicant's home laboratory.

Deadlines: 14 August (Long-Term), rolling basis (Short-Term)

Further information here

4.1.9 National EURAXESS Portals

The latest information on open calls for national grants and fellowships in the 40 member countries of the EURAXESS network can be accessed on the respective national EURAXESS portals:

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK.

4.2 EU Member States and Associated Countries

4.2.1 Global

4.2.1.1 IIASA Postdoctoral Fellowships

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), based in Austria, conducts policy-oriented research into problems of a global nature using an interdisciplinary approach: Energy and Climate Change, Food and Water, Poverty and Equity.

It provides full funding for a number of postdoctoral researchers each year. Scholars conduct their own research on topics closely related to IIASA’s
research agenda. The fellowships, of a **2 year duration**, cover a monthly allowance, relocation expenses and some travel costs.

Candidates of **any nationality holding a PhD degree with less than 5 years of postdoctoral experience** may apply.

Two calls per year.

**Next deadline: 1 October**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.2 Fellowships at NATO Defence College, Italy

The [NATO Defense College](#) each year offers **fellowships in the field of defence & security policy research** to NATO and its partners. The objective is to **promote research and political consulting** in areas of particular interest to NATO through **short research stays**.

Out of the five openings, **one is dedicated to nationals** from the “Partners Across the Globe” countries, of which **Japan** is a member.

Candidates will be **selected on the basis of their academic qualifications**, quality of research proposal, professional experience and publication record. Candidates must have a **good working knowledge of English or French**.

Successful candidates will be awarded **EUR 16,000** to cover all their travel and accommodation expenses during the **four month research stay**. The Fellow will be located at the NATO Defense College, in Rome, Italy.

**Deadline: 1 September**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.3 Canon Foundation Europe: European and Japanese Fellowships

The [Canon Foundation in Europe](#) grants up to **15 Fellowships per year** to highly qualified European and Japanese researchers in all fields.

Candidates are required to have obtained **at least a Master’s degree** within the **previous ten years**.

The **European Fellowship holders** pursue a **period of research in Japan** whereas the **Japanese Fellows** do their research at **host institutions in Europe**. The fellowships are awarded for **periods of three months to one year**.

Canon Fellows have to choose their host institutes and hosts abroad.

**Deadline: 15 September**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.4 EUI Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowships

**Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowships** provide a framework for established academics in **law and social sciences**, with an international reputation to pursue their research at the [European University Institute](#) (EUI).
Fellowships cover monthly stipend for **three to ten months research stays** in one of the EUI's four Departments.

**Established academics of any nationality**, with a good command of English and of any other language relevant to their research project may apply.

Two calls per year (varying between Departments).

**Next deadline: 30 September** (Depts. of Economics, History and Civilisation, Political and Social Sciences)

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.5 EUI Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Max Weber Programme is the largest international postdoctoral programme in the Social Sciences and Humanities in Europe. It offers around 50-55 fully funded Fellowships to qualified researchers from anywhere in the world.

The Programme is **open to applicants who are within 5 years of the completion of their PhD**. The language of the programme is English and therefore applicants’ expected level of English proficiency is level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

The majority of Max Weber Fellowships are for one year.

**Deadline: 25 October**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.6 EUI Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers **one-year Jean Monnet Fellowships** (renewable for one more year) to scholars who have **obtained their doctorate more than 5 years prior to the start** of the fellowship. The Fellowship programme is open to post-docs, and tenure track academics of all nationalities. The Centre offers up to 20 Fellowships a year.

The research proposal should fit well with one of the Centre’s main research themes:

- Integration, Governance and Democracy
- Markets and Governing Money
- 21st Century World Politics and Europe

**Deadline: 25 October**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.7 ERCIM Alain Bensoussan Fellowship Programme

The European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics (ERCIM) aims to foster collaborative work within the European research community, and features several leading European research institutes as members.
ERCIM offers fellowships for PhD holders from all over the world who have completed their PhD no longer than 8 years prior to the application deadline. Successful applicants will receive a fellowship for a 12 month stay at one of the institutes which are part of the ERCIM network. Topics cover most disciplines in Computer Science, Information Technology and Applied Mathematics.

Two calls per year

Next deadline: 30 September

Further information here

4.2.1.8 HFSP postdoctoral fellowships

The Human Frontier Science Programme (HFSP) proposes postdoctoral fellowships to encourage early career scientists to broaden their research skills by moving into new areas of study while working in a new country.

Long-Term Fellowships are for applicants with a Ph.D. in a biological discipline, who will broaden their expertise by proposing a project in the life sciences which is significantly different from their previous Ph.D. or postdoctoral work.

Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships are for applicants with a Ph.D. from outside the life sciences.

HFSP fellowships are for three years. Fellows (of any nationality) may choose to stay for up to three years in the host country or use the last year of their fellowship to return to their home country or to move to another HFSP member country.

Deadline: 13 August

Further information here

4.2.1.9 CERN: Postdoc Fellowship Programme

The CERN’s Non-Member State Fellowship Programme in Theoretical Physics awards two postdoctoral fellowships per year.

Nationals of any country but member states (including Japan) with a PhD in theoretical physics and a maximum of 10 years of postdoctoral experience are eligible.

The fellowships covering monthly stipend and travel expenses, are granted for a two-year period and can exceptionally be extended to a third year.

Deadline: 15 October

Further information here

4.2.2 Austria

4.2.2.1 Lise Meitner Programme for Scientists from Abroad

This programme targets highly qualified scientists of any discipline who can contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by
working at it. It funds 12 or 24 months postdocs with an annual personal allowance between EUR 62,500 and EUR 68,700.

Requirements: completed doctoral studies, record of international scientific publications, invitation from an Austrian research institution and co-application with an Austrian researcher. No age limit.

Applications continuously reviewed.

Further information here.

### 4.2.2.2 Erwin Schrödinger Fellowships

The purpose of the Erwin Schrödinger Fellowships is to allow young scientists doing research in Austria to perform work stays at leading foreign research institutions.

Young and highly qualified scientists of any discipline and nationality currently affiliated with an Austrian research institution may apply for research stays abroad of 10 to 24 months in length (without return phase) or a stay of 16 to 36 months in length (including return phase of 6 to 12 months). The applicants must find and obtain an invitation from host institutions both abroad and in Austria (in case they apply to the fellowship scheme including a return phase).

Applications accepted continuously

Further information here.

### 4.2.2.3 Franz Werfel Grant and Richard Plaschka Scholarship

The Franz Werfel Grant addresses itself to young university teachers whose work focuses on Austrian Literature.

The Richard Plaschka Scholarship is for foreign university lecturers of history whose main academic focus is Austrian history. Grant recipients should focus on eastern and south-eastern European area history with an emphasis on cross-border collaboration.

Both programmes, provided by OeAD, offers material support for up to 18 months, but through follow-up support also guarantees sustainability.

Candidates of any nationality, and at least of a postgraduate level, with a background in Austrian literature may apply.

Recipients of Werfel grants can work as visiting researchers at university departments and carry out specialist studies in libraries, archives or at research institutions.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 15 September
4.2.4 ISTFELLOW Postdoctoral Fellowships

ISTFELLOW is a programme open to applicants from all over the world who are interested in spending the postdoctoral stage of their scientific research career at the Institute of Science and Technology Austria (IST Austria). Core research areas are physics, chemistry, and mathematics, but this programme gives preference to scientists who have a strong interest in cross-disciplinary approaches.

The ISTFELLOW programme funds approximately 40 fellows per year for a two year stay, which may be extended under favourable conditions.

Next deadline: 15 September

Further information here

4.2.5 Marietta Blau Grant for PhD students

The Marietta Blau Grant offers financial support for outgoing research stays as part of a doctoral programme, in any discipline.

The programme is exclusively intended for people who do not receive any public funds for their doctoral studies apart from the Austrian study grant. Applicants must be enrolled at an Austrian educational or research institution. Duration of the stays can vary between 6 and 12 months during which a monthly allowance is awarded (travel costs are not covered).

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 1 September

Further information here

4.2.3 Belgium

FWO outgoing travel grants

This FWO grant supports research stays abroad of a 5 weeks to 12 months duration. The grant covers travel expenses and provides a fixed daily allowance.

Postdoctoral candidates can be of any nationality. Other candidates must be citizens of an EU Member State or Switzerland, have obtained their degree in an EU Member State or Switzerland, or have been affiliated in the past to a Flemish university for more than one year. All applicants must currently be affiliated with a Flemish university or research institution.

Applications continuously reviewed.

Further information here
4.2.4 Czech Republic

4.2.4.1 Josef Dobrovský Fellowship

The objective of the fellowship is to support “Czech studies” by means of the financing of short-term study stays of foreign researchers at the Institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS).

The fellowship is intended for young researchers who need to study the Czech historical, cultural, language, geographic or natural characteristics in the Czech Republic.

Research stays of 15-45 days at the CAS and related costs are covered.

Applications for the fellowship must be filed by the directors of CAS Institutes.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 31 August

Further information here

4.2.5 Denmark

4.2.5.1 International Network Programme

The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation has launched its 7th International Network Programme.

This programme is open to researchers working at Danish institutions wishing to engage in network activities with cooperation partners in selected countries - and Japan - and welcomes applications for the following activities:

- **Scientific workshops and conferences** with participation of researchers, scientists, research experts and PhD-students from Denmark and from one or more of the selected countries.

- **Short research stays** in order to identify potential for new collaborative projects and partnerships.

Deadline: 25 August

Further information here

4.2.5.2 Niels Bohr professorships 2015 Call

The Danish National Research Foundation (DNRF) calls for nominations in its 2015 Niels Bohr Professorship Programme. This programme seeks to attract international, senior-level researchers who are able to significantly advance the internationalization of a specific area of research in Denmark with long-term effects.

The programme covers salaries for the Niels Bohr professor and associated junior researchers, administrative support, operating costs for a nominal period of 5 years.

Proposals must be submitted by a researcher at the host Danish university.
4.2.6 Estonia

4.2.6.1 Kristjan Jaak Scholarships

The Kristjan Jaak Scholarship programme supports incoming and outgoing mobility, both short and long-term, for master’s and doctoral students as well as for teaching staff. Scholarships are divided into four categories with varying deadlines.

Estonian language proficiency is required to apply for a scholarship.

Next deadlines: 15 September (Foreign Visits: short term)

1 October (Part-time studies)

Further information here

4.2.6.2 Archimedes Foundation’s short-term visits for doctoral students

The programme brought by the Archimedes Foundation supports the short-term study and research activities of visiting PhD students in Estonian universities. The scheme is aimed at making Estonian universities and doctoral studies more international.

Candidates of any nationality but Estonian, engaged in doctoral studies in any field and affiliated with an institution outside of Estonia can apply for visits of duration of 1 to 10 months. The scheme covers a monthly stipend for the whole stay duration as well as a travel allowance.

Deadlines vary for each host institution (Estonian universities and Higher Education institutions)

Further information here

4.2.7 Finland

4.2.7.1 CIMO Fellowships

The CIMO Fellowships programme is open to young doctoral level students and to researchers from all countries and from all academic fields. Master's level studies or postdoctoral studies/research are not supported by the programme. The primary target group in the CIMO Fellowship programme are doctoral level students who will be doing their doctorate (or double doctorate) at a Finnish university.

There are no annual application deadlines in the CIMO Fellowship programme. However, please note that applications should be submitted at least 5 months before the intended scholarship period. The scholarship period
may vary from 3 to 12 months with a monthly allowance of EUR 1,500 to cover living expenses in Finland.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Further information here

4.2.8 France

4.2.8.1 Pays de la Loire: Connect Talent Call for Projects

With the international call for projects “Connect Talent”, the academic and economic actors of the Pays-de-la-Loire region wish to support “breakthrough projects”.

Individual mobility projects from highly talented scientists and researchers of any nationality, as well as institutional research projects or infrastructure projects can be accepted within this call.

Successful applicants will see their projects funded by the Region for a duration of 3 to 5 years. There is no maximum funding amount, successful projects being selected only on the basis of their quality, added value and feasibility.

Call open until beginning of 2016.

Next deadline: 30 September

Further information here

4.2.8.2 Ifremer 2015-2016 post-doctoral grants

Ifremer offers post-doctoral positions to young French or foreign scientists who have completed their PhD and are motivated by development and innovation in various fields of Marine Sciences: technology and ecotechnology, aquaculture, fisheries, environment, risks analysis, physics of oceans, etc.

Postdoctoral positions are contracted for a duration of 12 months, possibly renewable for 6 months, starting in November 2015. Candidates who already performed post-doctoral research at Ifremer are excluded.

Consult the list of available subjects here.

Deadline: 10 September 2015

Further information here

4.2.8.3 Institut Pasteur Roux-Cantarini Posdoctoral Fellowships

The Institut Pasteur offers postdoctoral fellowships through the Pasteur Roux-Cantarini programmes to give young scientists of any nationality the opportunity to perform a first or a second postdoctoral training in a laboratory of the Institut Pasteur.
Applicants must have defended their PhD thesis less than four years before they take up their fellowship. The fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years.

Candidates must contact, before applying, the head of the Institut Pasteur laboratory in which they would like to perform their work.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 10 September

Further information here

4.2.8.4 PRESTIGE Postdoc programme

The PRESTIGE programme, coordinated by Campus France, aims at fostering the international mobility of post-doc researchers.

Three mobility schemes are available:

- **Incoming**, allowing foreign researchers to carry out their post-doctoral research work in France;
- **Outgoing**, for researchers from France wishing to carry out a post-doctoral research project in another country;
- **Re-integration**, targeted at nationals of EU Member States or Associated Countries working in research for at least 3 years in another Third Country to come to France to further develop their career.

PRESTIGE is a co-financing programme, funding about 1/3 of the post-doc fellow’s living, mobility and research allowance, while the remaining 2/3 are financed by another partner, either public or private.

Call for applications continuously open with four cut-off dates.

Next deadline: 30 September

Further information here

4.2.9 PHC Sakura Programme 2016 Call

The PHC Sakura is a French-Japanese partnership for cooperation in S&T provided by JSPS (Japanese side), MAEDI and MENESR (French side). The objective of this programme is to foster new cooperative projects between young researchers and teams in Japan and in France.

The 2016 call focuses on several themes: ICTs, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Biology and Medicine, Agronomy.

French and Japanese candidates must co-submit to the relevant institutions in their respective countries cooperative projects that favour novel, innovative concepts and involve active participation of early stage researchers.

Selected projects may receive funding for a period of two years (with an optional third year), mainly covering research stays of a maximum duration of one month.

Deadline: September
4.2.10 Germany

4.2.10.1 Humboldt Research Fellowships for Postdoctoral and Experienced Researchers

The Humboldt Foundation promotes academic cooperation between excellent scientists and scholars from abroad and Germany. It funds research fellowships for excellent young and experienced researchers of any nationality and any discipline to come for long stays in Germany.

The Fellowships for Postdoctoral Researchers scheme are for researchers with no more than 4 years of experience after their PhD who wish to carry out a research stay in Germany for a period of 6 to 24 months.

The Fellowships for Experienced Researchers scheme are for researchers with between 5 and 12 years of experience after their PhD who wish to have a research stay in Germany for a period of 6 to 18 months.

Successful applicants must have, outside of an outstanding research record, a good command of English.

Applications reviewed on a rolling basis

Further information here (Postdoctoral) and here (Experienced Researchers)

4.2.10.2 Emmy Noether Programme

The Emmy Noether Programme provides early career foreign researchers (or German researchers working abroad) with the opportunity to rapidly qualify for a leading position in research by leading an independent junior research group and assuming relevant teaching duties in Germany.

Early career researchers from all disciplines and nationalities may apply.

Applicants must have at least 2 years of postdoctoral experience, but no more than 4 years of experience after completion of their PhD degree. Foreign applicants are expected to continue their scientific career in Germany following completion of the funding period of 5 or 6 years.

Applications reviewed continuously.

Further information here

4.2.10.3 DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships in the fields of Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation Research

DLR – DAAD Research Fellowships is a new programme implemented by the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

This special programme is intended for highly-qualified foreign doctoral and postdoctoral students, as well as senior scientists. Proof of English proficiency is necessary, while knowledge of German is a plus.
DLR-DAAD Fellowships are defined and awarded on an individual basis. Each fellowship announcement will indicate the specific qualification requirements and terms of the visit. There are currently fellowship offers available in Space, Aeronautics, Energy and Transportation. Application deadline varies according to the call.

List of open calls here

Further information here

4.2.10.1 Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Sofja Kovalevskaja Award

The Sofja Kovalevskaja Award allows you to spend five years building up a working group on an innovative research project of your own choice at a research institution in Germany.

Researchers from all disciplines may apply directly to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation which may grant up to eight Awards annually. The award is valued at up to EUR 1.65 million.

Eligible candidates are top-ranked foreign junior researchers who completed their doctorate within the last six years, and have published work in prestigious international journals or publishing houses.

Deadline: 1 September 2014

Further information here

4.2.10.1 PhD Programmes at the International Max Planck Research Schools

The Max Planck Institutes and German universities jointly run the International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRS). There are 60 IMPRS covering all disciplines: 26 in the Chemistry, Physics and Technology Section, 23 in the Biology and Medicine Section, and 11 in the Human and Social Sciences Section.

The PhD programmes are open to applicants from any country holding a Master’s degree in a relevant field. Proof of English proficiency is a plus, but is not mandatory.

Deadlines vary from a school to another: September - November

Further information here

4.2.11 Ireland

4.2.11.1 President of Ireland Young Researcher Award

The President of Ireland Young Researcher Award is Science Foundation Ireland’s (SFI) most prestigious award to recruit and retain early career researchers to carry out their research in Ireland.

The award recognises outstanding engineers and scientists of any nationality who, early in their careers, have already demonstrated exceptional potential for
leadership at the frontiers of knowledge. Awardees will be selected on the basis of exceptional accomplishments in science and engineering in all areas covered by SFI’s legal remit in order to perform their research project in Ireland.

Applicants should have received their last degree less than eight years ago and have completed at least 36 months of postdoctoral research activity. All applications must be submitted by an eligible Irish Research Body.

Research projects may last up to five years and receive up to EUR 1 million in total.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Further information here

4.2.11.2 SFI’s Research Professorship Programme

The purpose of the Research Professorship Programme is to recruit global research talent to Ireland to build the national research base. The ambitions of the appointed SFI Research Professor will be consistent with the strategic plans of the host research body.

Submission of proposals will be by invitation only following an expression of interest phase during which SFI will work closely with the research body. Funding of up to EUR 5 million (does not cover the professor’s salary) will be provided to each successful applicant for a five-year programme of work.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Further information here

4.2.12 Italy

4.2.12.1 Scuola Normale Superiore PhD courses

The Scuola Normale Superiore (SNS) offers fully-funded PhD programmes in a variety of fields including humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and engineering.

Students of any nationality who hold or expect to obtain their master’s degree by October 2015 may apply for the PhD courses.

Successful applicants will receive full financial support (tuition fees, monthly allowance) for the whole duration of the course: 3 years (4 years in the neuro-science and biophysical fields). Successful applicants are expected to start working at one of the institutes of the SNS by November 2015.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 31 August

Further information here

http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess
4.2.13 Netherlands

4.2.13.1 NWO’s Visitor’s Travel Grant

The aim of this grant, provided by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), is to facilitate cooperation between Dutch and foreign researchers.

Researchers with a tenured position at one of the Dutch universities, KNAW institutes, NWO institutes, NKI, MPI Nijmegen, researchers from the Dubble Beamline at the ESRF in Grenoble, NCB Naturalis, and the Advanced Research Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL) can apply for a visitor’s grant. With this grant, highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.

Applications reviewed continuously

Further information here

4.2.13.1 Lorentz Centre Workshop Proposal

The Lorentz Centre is an international centre that was set up to organise interactive workshops within the natural sciences. One special aspect is the possibility to obtain a room to organise workshops between natural scientists and those in the humanities and social sciences.

Three review sessions per year.

Next proposal review: 15 September

Further information here

4.2.13.1 Rubicon Programme

Rubicon aims to encourage talented researchers at Dutch universities and research institutes run by KNAW and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) to dedicate themselves to a career in postdoctoral research.

Applicants holding a PhD can apply for a period of up to two years at an excellent research institution outside the Netherlands. The minimum duration is twelve months. The eligible costs are salary including fringe benefits, travel costs and a limited amount of research costs.

Three calls per year.

Next deadline: 1 September

Further information here

4.2.14 Norway

4.2.14.1 RCN’s Personal Visiting Researcher Grant

The Research Council of Norway (RCN) funds this grant, the objective of which is to help strengthen Norwegian research groups by offering visiting foreign researchers (postdoctorate level or higher) the opportunity to perform research in Norway. The grant may cover stays for visiting
researchers from one to 12 months. The applicant must be from a Norwegian research institution.

Next deadline: 9 September

Further information here

4.2.14.2 High North Programme 2013-2018

The SIU High North Programme supports collaboration between higher education institutions in Norway and institutions in Canada, China, Japan, Russia, the Republic of Korea and the United States in order to increase knowledge about the High North.

It provides funds to support student or staff mobility, intensive courses, joint teaching and supervisions, study programmes or degrees. The programme is open to all disciplines and all levels of education, but must be related to topics such as climate change, the environment, resources, transport/logistics, economy and issues relating to indigenous people.

Accredited Norwegian higher education institutions may apply under one of these three categories:

- **Long term projects**: up to NOK 1,5 million for a three year period
- **Limited project activities**: up to NOK 300 000 for a two year period
- **Preparatory visits**: Applicants with a partner in China, Japan or the Republic of Korea may apply for up to NOK 70 000.

Deadline: 23 September

Further information here

4.2.15 Poland

4.2.15.1 IDEAS For Poland

The objective of this programme is to encourage young, brilliant researchers from around the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out research projects successfully funded by the ERC Starting Grant scheme.

The programme is designed for people whose previous scientific record demonstrates that they are highly independent as researchers, and warrants that they will conduct world-class quality research.

Subsidies can be granted directly after winning an ERC grant and during the project. The maximum subsidised period is 3 years.

**Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

Further information here
4.2.16 Spain

4.2.16.1 AMAROUT-II Europe Programme

AMAROUT-II is a Marie Curie Action (PEOPLE-COFUND). It is a fellowship programme designed to support transnational mobility of senior researchers.

Both "experienced" and "very experienced" researchers from any country can apply for AMAROUT-II fellowships at any of the seven IMDEA Institutes participating in the program (Energy, Food, Materials, Nanoscience, Networks, Software, and Water).

Permanent call for applications until 30 September

Further information here

4.2.16.2 Ikerbasque Research Professors Call 2015

The Basque Foundation for Science (Ikerbasque) has launched its annual call for attracting senior researchers to the Research Institutions in the Basque Country.

This call offers permanent contract positions for experienced researchers within any of the Basque Research Institutions (Universities, Basque Excellence Research Centres, Cooperative Research Centres, Biomedical institutions and Technology Corporations, etc.). Researchers from any country, with a solid research track, senior level and international research experience may apply.

Deadline: 10 September 2015

Further information here

4.2.17 Sweden

4.2.17.1 STINT Initiation Grants

STINT offers Initiation Grants for the implementation of short-term projects targeting the building of new and strategically interesting international relationships.

Candidates shall be active at a university in Sweden and have defended their doctorates. The principal collaborating party shall be outside the EU/EFTA area. The proposed activities within the project shall be completed within twelve months from closing date of the call and the applied amount shall not exceed SEK 150,000 (EUR 15,750).

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Further information here

4.2.17.2 VINNMER Marie Curie Incoming and Outgoing

The purpose of this VINNOVA call is to support experienced researcher careers through mobility and international collaborations.
Through the **Incoming scheme**, experienced researchers of **all nationalities** can apply for **international mobility to Sweden** with project times of **1-3 years** and get up to **50% of their salary costs** as well as additional relevant costs relating to mobility covered.

Through the **Outgoing scheme**, experienced researchers of **all nationalities currently affiliated with industry or research institutes in Sweden** with at least four years of research experience can apply for **research stays abroad of 1-3 years**, where at least 50% of the time is spent outside Sweden, or of **3 months**, where all of the time is spent outside Sweden. In both cases up to **50% of their salary costs** as well as additional relevant costs relating to mobility covered.

**Deadline: 16 September**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.17.3 Formas Funding for international Workshops

The **Swedish Research Council Formas** award grants towards the costs of organising conferences and workshops within the areas of responsibility of Formas.

Meetings organized in Sweden are prioritized. The grant may be used to cover travel and accommodation costs for a limited number of participants, primarily participants from other countries. Funding from Formas may also be used to support organisational costs.

**A doctoral degree is not required** in order to apply for funding to organise workshops.

Applications continuously received; 3 reviews per year.

**Next Deadlines: 6 August, 1 October**

Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1 Switzerland

#### 4.2.1.1 SNSF International Exploratory Workshops

The **Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)** International Exploratory Workshops are aimed at researchers in Switzerland who wish to organise workshops with participants from abroad. The workshops are an opportunity for researchers from different backgrounds to meet, share new insights and increase their knowledge in a field.

The grant comprises **travel, room and board costs for up to ten participants from abroad**. The workshops may last from **two to five days**.

Applicants must be affiliated with a Swiss university or research institute and hold a PhD degree.

Several calls per year.

**Next deadline: 7 October**
Further information [here](#)

### 4.2.1.2 SNSF Doc Mobility (outgoing)

Doctoral Mobility fellowships are designed for doctoral students who wish to enhance their scientific profile by working at a research institution abroad.

The fellowships include a grant towards living costs, a flat-rate for travel expenses, and, if justified, a contribution to research costs. These fellowships are awarded for a minimum of 6 months up to a maximum of 18 months.

Swiss nationals or foreign researchers with a minimum activity period of 1 year at a research institution in Switzerland, matriculated as PhD student in Switzerland for at least 12 months can apply.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 1 September

Further information [here](#)
4.2.1.5 SNSF International Short Visits

This scheme is aimed at researchers in Switzerland who wish to go abroad for a short period or researchers abroad who wish to collaborate with researchers in Switzerland. During the visit, they pursue a small joint research project.

Short visits may last from one week to three months. There are no geographical and topical restrictions. The grants include travel, room and board expenses.

Both host and guest researchers must contribute to the application documents but submission must be performed by the researcher affiliated to Switzerland.

Applications continuously reviewed

Further information here

4.2.1.6 ETH Zurich Postdoctoral Fellowships

The ETH Zurich Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme supports incoming fellowships for postdoctoral researchers at the ETH Zurich. The programme is intended to foster high-potential, young researchers who have already demonstrated excellence.

Applicants must have obtained their PhD degree no more than 2 years prior to the deadline. Successful candidates will be awarded an ETH Fellowship for a period of 2 years.

Applications have to be made jointly by the candidate and their ETH Zurich host.

Two calls per year.

Next deadline: 1 September

Further information here

4.2.2 Turkey

4.2.2.1 TÜBİTAK Fellowships for Visiting Scientists

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) grants fellowships for international scientists/researchers who would like to give workshops/conferences/lectures, or conduct R&D activities in Turkey.

Three types of visits are granted within this programme: Short-term (up to 1 month), Long-term (up to 12 months) and Sabbatical Leave (from 3 months to 12 months). All types of grants cover monthly stipend and travel costs.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Further information here
4.2.2.2 Graduate Scholarship Programme for International Students

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) grants scholarships for international students of any country seeking to pursue a graduate degree in Turkey. The scholarship covers fields of Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technological Sciences, Medical Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities.

Scholarships may cover monthly stipends and tuition fees for Master and PhD courses with a maximum duration of 2 years for the Master’s and 4 years for the PhD programme.

Deadline: September

Further information here

4.2.2.3 Research Fellowship Programme for International Researchers

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) grants fellowships for highly qualified PhD students and young post-doctoral researchers of any nationality (except Turkish) and discipline to pursue their research in Turkey.

The fellowships cover monthly stipend and travel expenses for a maximum duration of 12 months.

Two application rounds per year.

Next deadline: 19 October

Further information here

4.2.3 United Kingdom

4.2.3.1 Daiwa Foundation Awards/Small Grants

The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation is a UK charity enabling British and Japanese students and academics to further their education through exchanges and other bilateral initiatives.

Daiwa Foundation Awards can cover projects in most academic, professional, arts, cultural and educational fields in the context of an institutional relationship. Awards seek to encourage the development and sustainability of UK-Japan partnerships. This award’s amount can vary from £7,000 to £15,000 (EUR 8,700 to EUR 18,800).

Daiwa Foundation Small Grants can cover all fields of activity, including educational and grassroots exchanges, research travel, the organisation of conferences, exhibitions, etc. New initiatives are especially encouraged. This programme grants usually between £3,000 and £7,000 (EUR 3,750 to EUR 8,700) per project.

Two calls per year: spring and autumn.
4.2.3.1 STFC Ernest Rutherford Fellowships

The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) proposes these fellowships to enable early career researchers without a permanent position to establish an independent research programme. They encourage talented researchers in UK universities to remain in the country and at the same time attract outstanding overseas researchers to the UK.

Applications must fall within the remit of the STFC core Science Programme (astronomy, solar and planetary science, particle physics, particle astrophysics, cosmology, nuclear physics).

Applicants, of any nationality, must have a PhD and a minimum of two years postdoctoral experience.

Twelve funding supports of five year duration are granted each year.

Deadline: 24 September

Further information here

4.3 Japan

4.3.1 JSPS Fellowships Programmes for Research in Japan

The Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out programmes which provide overseas researchers who have an excellent record of research achievements with an opportunity to conduct postdoctoral studies, collaborative research, and short research stays in Japan.

Researchers from all countries with diplomatic relations with Japan and of any field of study are eligible.

Applications must be submitted by the inviting researchers who wish to host foreign researchers in Japan, either directly through JSPS (see here) or through an overseas nominating authority (France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden: see list here). Various fellowship categories are provided:

- **Standard postdoctoral fellowships** are of a duration of 1 to 2 years.
- **Short-term postdoctoral fellowships** are of a duration of 1 to 12 months.
- **Pathway postdoctoral fellowships** are for 1-2 years and should be followed by a sustainable implantation of the researcher in Japan.
- **Invitation fellowships** are for research stays of a duration of 2-10 months (Long-term), 14-60 days (Short-term), 7-30 days (Short-term S).
Approximately 320 postdoctoral fellowships and 290 invitation fellowships should be awarded for JFY2016 through two to four calls.

Next application rounds:

- Postdoctoral fellowships: 31 August - 4 September (Standard and “Pathway to University Positions in Japan”) 5-9 October (Short-term)
- Invitation fellowships: 31 August - 4 September (Long-term, Short-term and Short-term S)

Further information here (pdf)

4.3.2 JSPS Bilateral Joint Research Projects/Seminars 2016 Call for Proposals

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out bilateral cooperative programmes between Japan and counterpart countries based on agreements concluded with academies, research councils and other science-promotion organizations in those countries. The aim of these programmes is to form sustained networks evolved from individual scientist exchanges including young scientists.

JSPS provides financial support to Japanese scientists implementing such bilateral joint research projects and seminars between research teams from Japan and counterpart countries (such as: covering travel expenses, administrative costs, etc).

Counterpart agreements with the following European countries and institutions are available: Austria (FWF), Belgium (FRS - FNRS, FWO), Czech Republic (CAS), Finland (AF), France (CNRS, Inria, Inserm, MAEDI), Germany (DAAD, DFG), Hungary (HAS), Italy (CNR), Netherland (NWO), Poland (PAN), Slovenia (MESS), Sweden (STINT).

Deadline: 8 September

Further information here

4.3.3 JSPS Researcher Exchange Programme

Under this Researcher Exchange Programme, the JSPS nominates visiting researchers, whom it dispatches abroad. These exchanges normally provide Japanese researchers with their first opportunity to do research in the counterpart country.

Available European countries are: Finland (AF), France (Inserm, IHES), Germany (DAAD) and Norway (RCN) for either short-term, long-term research stays, or postdoctoral fellowships.
Applicants must be Japanese nationals, hold a PhD or equivalent degree and be eligible to the JSPS Grant-in-Aid (Kakenhi) scheme.

Applications must be made to JSPS upon agreement with the potential host organisation abroad.

**Application round: 25 August - 8 September**

Further information [here](#).

### 4.3.4 MIF Research Fellowships Call for Applications

The Matsumae International Foundation (MIF) is a nongovernmental organisation that invites foreign researchers for short research stays in Japan to foster international cooperation and help Japan globalise its research landscape in the field of natural sciences, engineering and medicine.

Researchers of any nationality but Japanese, and holding a PhD degree may apply for a 3 to 6 months research stay to be performed during JFY2016. Approximately 20 fellowships comprising a monthly stipend, travel and move-in allowance will be awarded this year.

Applicants must find a host institution in Japan prior to submitting their proposal to the Foundation.

**Deadline: 31 August**

Further information [here](#).

### 4.3.5 Sir Martin Wood Prize call for nominations

The Sir Martin Wood Prize, named after the founder of Oxford Instruments, was established in 1998 with the objective of giving recognition to young scientists in Japan. The Prize is sponsored by the British company Oxford Instruments plc.

The Sir Martin Wood Prize is awarded annually to a scientist, younger than 40, who has achieved remarkable results in condensed matter science at a university or research institute in Japan.

Nominations have to come from recognised researchers in that field.

**Deadline: 1 August**

Further information [here](#) (Japanese only).

### 4.3.6 Muratec Foundation Outgoing Mobility Scholarships

The Muratec Foundation awards scholarships for outgoing mobility of Japanese researchers and graduate students in the fields of law, economics, science and engineering.

Further information [here](#).
Graduate students can apply for as much as two years of scholarship and PhD students, postdocs and associate professors for a maximum of one year. The scholarships include a monthly stipend and travel expenses.

Applicants must find a host institution themselves. Two to four scholarships are awarded each year.

Deadline: 28 August

Further information here
5 Jobs

5.1 EURAXESS Jobs

There are currently 10125 jobs and fellowships advertised on the EURAXESS Jobs webpage. They can be viewed by country, level of seniority, field of research or via free text searches. Please note that these jobs also include doctoral fellowships.

All the positions can be viewed at the EURAXESS Jobs page.

You can also advertise for jobs and fellowships at your organisation, free of charge, on the EURAXESS Links Japan website!

Research organisations (public and private) can upload their job vacancies located in Japan.

5.2 Jobs in Europe (selection)

5.2.1 HPC Computational Scientist Position at Cyprus Institute

The Computation-based Science and Technology Research Center (CaSToRC) of Cyprus Institute invites applications for a Computational Scientist with high performance computing (HPC) expertise. The position is within the EU project VI-SEEM and the successful candidate is expected to assume and pursue research activities in the area of climate change.

The candidates must have a PhD in a relevant field and extensive experience in programming. The appointment will be for a fixed term of two years with the possibility of renewal for a third year depending on performance and availability of funds.

Application deadline: 31 August

Further information: EURAXESS Jobs
5.2.2 ERC Postdoctoral position at IMDEA Materiales, Spain

IMDEA Materials Institute is a non-profit, private research organization, promoted by the Regional Government of Madrid, to carry out research activities in Materials Science and Engineering.

One of its groups is seeking a postdoctoral researcher to join a research project in the area of synthesis of nanoscale materials. The research group is interested in nanomaterials and the exploitation of their properties on a macroscopic scale.

Candidates of any nationality, holding a PhD degree in a relevant field and showing extensive experience are eligible.

Application deadline: 14 August

Further information: EURAXESS Jobs

5.2.3 MSCA PhD position, Klaipeda University, Lithuania

One position is available at the University of Klaipėda, Lithuania within the EU-funded project CHIBOW (Children Born of War - Past Present Future). The successful candidate will work within the Institute of Baltic Region History and Archaeology, University of Klaipėda (Lithuania) on different aspects of the life courses and experiences of Children Born of War in WW II in Lithuania and after (1945 -1953).

Candidates of any nationality, holding a MSc degree in a relevant field may apply.

Application deadline: 1 September

Further information: EURAXESS Jobs

5.2.4 Other jobs in Europe

Find a wealth of career links on our EURAXESS Links Japan web portal!
5.3 Jobs in Japan

5.3.1 JREC-IN
The Japanese job portal for researchers JREC-IN is currently advertising 3257 positions in Japanese, and 339 positions in English.
All positions can be viewed at the JREC-IN portal in English or in Japanese.

5.3.2 Postdoctoral positions at WPI AIMR (Tohoku University)
Full-time, non-tenured assistant professor or postdoctoral positions are available for highly motivated researchers (chemists, physicists, materials scientists) to work in the following two fields:
- Functional materials with specific emphasis on superconductivity and magnetism, and
- Molecular materials science with special emphasis on biomaterials and molecular magnets.
(several openings each)
The candidates must have a PhD degree and experience in a relevant field. The successful candidates will be awarded 2 year contracts at maximum.
Application procedure open until position is filled
Further information here

5.3.3 Postdoctoral positions at WPI ItbM (Nagoya University)
The Institute of Transformative Biomolecules (ITbM), Nagoya University, is offering postdoctoral positions for non-Japanese nationals to study the mechanism of animal circadian and seasonal rhythms using synthetic, systems and cross-disciplinary approaches fusing catalysis organic chemistry, peptide biochemistry, and animal chemical genetics.
Candidates must have a PhD and a strong publication record in a relevant field.
Application deadline: September 2015
Further information here

5.3.4 Still open positions (see previous newsletters)
- Research Scientists Positions at WPI ELSI (Tokyo Institute of Technology)
Further information here
5.3.5 Other jobs in Japan

Find a number of career links on our EURAXESS Links Japan web portal!
6 Events

6.1 Events in Europe

Non-exhaustive list of scientific or research-related events in Europe.

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<th>Event</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<td>LHCP 2015 – 3rd Conference on Large Hadron Collider Physics</td>
<td>31 Aug - 5 Sept</td>
<td>St Petersburg, Russia</td>
<td>NRC KI</td>
<td>Accelerator Science</td>
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<td>International summer school on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)</td>
<td>31 Aug - 10 Sept</td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
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<td>Frontiers in Material and Life Sciences</td>
<td>2-4 Sept.</td>
<td>Brno, Czech Republic</td>
<td>CEITEC/ICRC</td>
<td>Frontier Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMBO Meeting 2015</td>
<td>5-8 Sept.</td>
<td>Birmingham, UK</td>
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<td>Horizon 2020 Info Day 'Health, demographic change and wellbeing'</td>
<td>18 Sept.</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
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<td>Health Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Science is wonderful”: 10th Anniversary of the European Researchers’ Night</td>
<td>23 Sept.</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>Open Science</td>
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<td>ICT 2015 Innovate, Connect, Transform</td>
<td>20-22 Oct.</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
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<td>European Space Launchers</td>
<td>3-4 Nov.</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6.2 Events in Japan

6.2.1 Research Manager and Administrator Network Japan 1st Annual Conference

The very first meeting of the newly formed Research Manager and Administrator Network Japan (RMAN-J) will be the opportunity for administrators, managers, but also for researchers to learn more about the Japanese research landscape, its situation and its stakes in an ever more globalised environment.
It will be a prime opportunity to discuss and exchange with a number of URAs with a strong influence on universities research policies!

**Date:** 1-2 September

**Venue:** Shinshu University

Registration and further information [here](#) (Japanese only)

### 6.2.2 Tsukuba International Conference on Materials Science 2015

This international interdisciplinary conference is intended for the world renowned scholars, researchers and students in materials science. The scope of the conference includes the various kinds of functional materials.

The conference is composed of several symposia organized by authorities of University of Tsukuba in each research field, including the 2nd Japan-France Symposium on Green-Materials and Advanced Characterization.

**Date:** 25 August - 5 September

**Venue:** Tsukuba University

Registration and further information [here](#)

### 6.2.3 Other events in Japan

Non-exhaustive list of scientific or research-related events in Japan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>SIP Symposium on infrastructure management and control</td>
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<td>Tsukuba</td>
<td>NIMS</td>
<td>Material Sciences</td>
<td><a href="#">here</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please feel free to contact us at [japan@euraxess.net](mailto:japan@euraxess.net) if you want your event to be on the list!
| The truth about the Fukushima nuclear disaster, by Naoto Kan, former PM | 16 Sept | Tokyo | Deutsches Institut für Japanstudien | Disaster relief | [here](#) |
About EURAXESS Links Japan

EURAXESS Links Japan is a networking tool for European researchers active/seeking activity in Japan and for Japanese researchers wishing to collaborate with and/or pursue a career in Europe.

EURAXESS Links Japan provides information about research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, for EU-Japan and international collaboration and for trans-national mobility.

Membership is free.

Visit us at japan.euraxess.org and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links Japan community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the page.

EURAXESS Links networks have thus far been launched in North America (USA & Canada) Japan, China, India, the ASEAN hub (encompassing Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam) and Brazil.