Dear Colleagues!


December 2014 marks the first anniversary of Horizon 2020, the world’s largest multinational funding programme for research and innovation, already featuring several joint projects with Canada and the USA, with hopefully many more to come!

It is very important for us to interact with our community, as there is always room for improvement, we would like to ask you to spend a few minutes completing our brief satisfaction survey. We are looking forward to your feedback on our services!

As always, we are very pleased to provide you with over 50 open calls for proposals in more than 20 European countries. Our news and development section includes recent and very interesting news from the European Research Area, Canada and the United States.

Wishing you all a beautiful holiday season!

Your,

EURAXESS Links North America Team

http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess
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1 EU Insight – RESAVER: boost to supporting researcher mobility

In August 2014, this newsletter’s ‘EU Insight’ section introduced the pan-European Retirement Savings Vehicle for European Research Institutions (RESAVER)[1]. This pension arrangement will enable researchers to remain affiliated to the same pension fund, even when changing jobs and moving between different countries within the European Research Area (ERA). Singled out as a priority in the 2012 Communication on ERA [2], in which the European Commission pledged to “support stakeholders in setting up pan-European supplementary pension fund(s) for researchers”, this initiative received two major boosts within the past months:

First, on 1 October, the consortium was launched that aims to establish this new pan-European pension arrangement [3]; and second, on 16 December, the Commission reported that a four-year, four million euro framework contract in support of creating RESAVER has been awarded to Aon Belgium [4] in response to the call for tender launched by the Commission in summer 2014.

Two major boosts to RESAVER establishment

The RESAVER consortium, a group of committed employers, will be working as an international not-for-profit association registered in Belgium. The founding members are: Central European University Budapest; Central European Research Infrastructure Consortium (CERIC-ERIC); Elettra - Sincrotrone Trieste S.C.p.A; Fondazione Edmund Mach; Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia; Technical University of Vienna; and the Association of universities in the Netherlands (VSNU)[3].

The consortium plans to set up the pension arrangement with the first contribution being paid in 2015. The four-year framework contract awarded by the Commission in mid-December will cover the initial set-up costs. This will enable the consortium to roll out the single European pension arrangement across the European Economic Area by 2018.

By participating in RESAVER, employers will be able to sponsor a single European pension arrangement capable of delivering:

- Cross-border pooling of pension plans;
- Continuity of the accumulation of pension benefits as professionals move between different organisations and countries during their career;
- Lower overhead costs (and therefore improved member benefits) through economies of scale;
- Access to high quality investments regardless of the country where the employee is based (where legally possible), thereby improving overall member benefits;
- A pan-European risk pooling solution covering death benefits;

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A centralised portal for tracking and administering pension contribution [4].

"Mobile researchers face obstacles related to social security, in particular with regard to their pensions. [...] By removing barriers to researchers’ mobility and ensuring safe and sustainable pensions for research professionals, [RESAVER] will contribute to the establishment of a European labour market for researchers." European Commission, ERA Progress Report 2014 [5]

Sources and further information on RESAVER


2 EURAXESS Links North America Activities

2.1 EURAXESS Links Satisfaction Survey 2014

Dear EURAXESS Links community members!

EURAXESS Links would like to hear from you how we can further improve our services to keep you updated about research mobility opportunities.

We would appreciate you taking the time to please take our brief user survey, which is designed to help us to better understand what you need. The survey should take between 3-5 minutes to complete.


Thank you very much for your feedback!

Your EURAXESS Links Team
3 News & Developments

3.1 EU and Member States

3.1.1 Europe and Africa double research efforts to tackle AIDS, Ebola and other infectious diseases

The EU and Africa are doubling the research efforts to develop new and better medicines for poverty-related diseases affecting sub-Saharan Africa such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, hookworms and Ebola.

Building on the success of the first programme, the second European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership programme (EDCTP2) will work with a budget of €2 billion over the next ten years to fight infectious diseases in developing countries. For this, the EU will contribute €683 million from Horizon 2020, the EU’s research and innovation programme, and around €1.5 billion will come from European countries. EDCTP2 heralds a new era of cooperation between Europe and Africa in medical research with countries from both continents working as equal partners.

Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: "Infectious diseases like AIDS, Ebola or malaria are a major global threat, but they hit poor communities hardest. The latest Ebola outbreak reminds us that more research is needed to find new medicines and vaccines that will help save millions of lives. Today, Europe and Africa are stepping up their efforts to fight the spread of infectious diseases together. With the investment of EUR 700 million from Horizon 2020, the EU will boost research efforts to prevent new epidemics in the future."

Prof. John Gyapong, Board Member of the EDCTP Association said: "The birth of EDCTP2 is very timely. Neglected Infectious Diseases and Implementation Science Research are now covered. This presents a great opportunity for African countries to improve their health care delivery systems through good science. The prospects are indeed very bright."

The EDCTP Association now includes 13 European countries (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom) and 11 African countries (Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo, the Gambia, Ghana, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia). Mali, Burkina Faso, Sweden and Switzerland are about to join as well.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

See also EDCTP Calls for Proposals: EDCTP-TDR Clinical Research and Development Fellowships (Deadline: 30 January 2015) and Diagnostic tools for poverty-related diseases (Deadline: 2 March 2015)

3.1.2 EU companies must boost R&D investment to stay globally competitive

Investment in research and development by companies based in the EU grew by 2.6% in 2013, despite the unfavourable economic environment. However,
this growth has slowed in comparison to the previous year's 6.8%. It is also below the 2013 world average (4.9%), and lags behind companies based in the US (5%) and Japan (5.5%).

These results are published this month in the European Commission's 2014 *EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard*, which analyses the top 2500 companies worldwide, representing about 90% of the total business R&D expenditure. Data show that EU-based companies (633) invested €162.4 billion in 2013, whereas US-based companies (804) invested €193.7 billion and the 387 Japanese ones €85.6 billion.

Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation said: "Despite the harsh economic climate, EU companies continue to invest in R&D. That is good news, but more is needed to keep up with our competitors. With public resources limited, attracting private R&D investment is even more essential. Horizon 2020 is already engaging more businesses than ever before, but now we're ready to step up our game. The EUR 315 billion investment plan presented by the Commission and European Investment Bank will help to raise more private investment for riskier projects, benefiting R&D across Europe."

Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport highlighted: "Thanks to the presence of excellent researchers and good knowledge-sharing opportunities Europe is an attractive destination for R&D investment. But to keep up with global competitors we need to boost investments – and these should benefit a range of research disciplines and sectors. Building a knowledge economy requires strong foundations and we count on our industry partners to help us in these efforts."

Read more (Source: European Commission)

See also the Fact sheet "World trends in R&D private investment. Facts and figures"

3.1.3 Switzerland and EU join forces in science and research

On 5 December 2014, the European Union and Switzerland signed a comprehensive international agreement associating Switzerland to parts of Horizon 2020, Research and Training Programme of Euratom and the ITER project. This will see Switzerland participate in project consortia in eligible programmes on an equal footing with EU Member States, while financially contributing to these programmes with an estimated €400 million until the end of 2016.

Commenting on the signature of the agreement, Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Science, Research and Innovation said: "This agreement is of paramount importance for our scientific communities. EU researchers benefit from access to excellent Swiss research facilities and institutions. At the same time, access to schemes for researcher mobility like Marie Skłodowska-Curie or to excellent research in programmes like ERC and Future and Emerging Technologies is vital for the Swiss. Furthermore, with this agreement Switzerland renews its commitment towards our long standing and fruitful collaboration."
As part of the Horizon 2020 programme, Swiss beneficiaries will be able to participate with an associated status in actions under the "Excellent Science" pillar, which contains the European Research Council, Future and Emerging Technologies, Research Infrastructures and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions as well as in actions under the specific objective “Spreading excellence and widening participation”. In addition, Switzerland will also participate as an associated country in the Euratom Programme and the ITER project.

The participation of Switzerland is effective from 15 September 2014 until 31 December 2016. Beyond 2016, association to these programmes will depend on Swiss measures to ensure the non-discrimination of Croatian citizens and researchers. If Switzerland resolves the issue of the free movement of persons by February 2017, the association will expand to the whole of Horizon 2020 including the parts not yet covered. Otherwise, the whole agreement will be automatically terminated.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

3.1.4 EU backs 328 top early-career researchers with €485 million

The European Research Council (ERC) has selected 328 first class scientists to receive its prestigious Starting Grants, worth up to €2 million each. The awarded €485 million contributes to supporting a new generation of top scientists in Europe developing so-called "blue sky research": ambitious high-risk, high-gain research projects in any field.

The projects selected cover a wide array of topics, including wearable electronic textiles powered by body heat, detection of bacteria by smell, 'toxic expertise' in the petrochemical industry, the origins of human rationality, combating cancer related inflammation, as well as optimising user interface design. Read about some of the selected projects here.

Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science said: "To create tomorrow’s innovation and growth, cutting-edge research is a must. With its Starting Grants, the European Research Council nurtures the next generation of excellent scientists allowing them to follow their scientific curiosity and take risks. To be at the forefront, Europe needs this gutsy mindset, and to invest in young talent."

This year, grants are awarded to researchers of 38 nationalities, hosted in 180 different institutions throughout Europe. In terms of host institutions, Germany (70 grants) and the UK (55 grants) are in the lead, followed by France (43) and The Netherlands (34). Researchers are also hosted in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden and Turkey, along with one project in CERN in Switzerland.

Around 40 of the researchers are of non-European nationality; for instance North and South Americans, Asians, Australians, New Zealanders and Russians. Many of them were already based in Europe.

http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess
There are also 18 researchers coming to Europe to carry out their ERC-funded projects, including 13 returning Europeans, as well as scientists moving to Europe from Australia and North America. This is in line with the ERC mission to attract more excellent researchers to Europe.

The average age of selected researchers is about 35 years.

Read more (Source: European Commission)

3.1.5 Strengthening the SET-Plan

Over 650 energy stakeholders from Europe and beyond gathered in Rome this month for the 7th Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) Conference. The conference offered a unique opportunity for all stakeholders and representatives of national and EU institutions to have in-depth discussions on the new developments of the SET Plan towards an integrated roadmap and action plan addressing research & innovation challenges and needs of the EU energy system.

The "towards an integrated Roadmap" document which will ultimately lead to the Action Plan was presented at the event, and is the result of in depth consultation and inputs from more than 150 stakeholders and the SET-Plan steering committee from the Member States. The document has been compiled based on these inputs by the European Commission's Directorates-General for Energy, Research and Innovation and the Joint Research Centre. The JRC coordinated the technical and scientific input to the consultation process.

Source: Joint Research Center

3.1.6 Crop, dairy and meat markets projections for the next 10 years

JRC expertise in modelling with a focus on baseline projections and particularly on uncertainty scenarios has fed into the latest issue of the European Commission's agricultural outlook for the next decade. The outlook "Prospects for EU Agricultural Markets and Income," was compiled by the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development and presented during a dedicated conference. The publication describes the trends for major EU agricultural commodity markets such as crop, milk and meat markets until 2024.

Read more (Source: Joint Research Center)

3.1.7 FRONTIER RESEARCH: Using the science of invisibility to make black holes in the lab – Prof. Ulf Leonhardt

From the galactic to the quantum, the science of invisibility is revealing new ways to manipulate the world, said Professor Ulf Leonhardt, from Israel's Weizmann Institute, after giving a presentation at TEDxBrussels “The Science of invisibility” on 1 December.

Read the interview on HORIZON The EU Research & Innovation Magazine.
3.1.8 INTERVIEW: ‘Kitchen blender’ graphene could enable printable circuits and sensors – Prof. Jonathan Coleman

Graphene that can be made in a kitchen blender is opening up a new world of printable electronic devices, according to Professor Jonathan Coleman, speaking after making a presentation at the TEDxBrussels conference "How the magic of nano connects blenders, printers and rubber bands" on 1 December.

Read the interview on HORIZON The EU Research & Innovation Magazine.

3.1.9 The light fantastic

Light pulses that last just a billionth of a billionth of a second are allowing scientists to view the movement of electrons in detail for the first time. In the darkest month of the year, Horizon turns its gaze towards the science of light.

We discover how these rapid light pulses are helping scientists make ‘molecular movies’ of chemical reactions, and learn how Europe is leading the way in the use of extreme light, from the world’s brightest X-ray to one of the world’s most powerful lasers.

We investigate the new materials that are harnessing sunlight to clean our environment, from pollution-absorbing bus lanes to paint that purifies drinking water. Finally, we explore how new LED technology could not only dramatically cut Europe’s lighting bills but also influence the way we interact with our environment.

Read more (Source: HORIZON The EU Research & Innovation Magazine )

3.1.10 Marie Curie Fellow Leads Analysis of the Genomes of Malaria-Carrying Mosquitoes

Dr Robert Waterhouse, a Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has published his findings on malaria-carrying mosquitoes genome analysis in 'Science'.

Read more (Source: Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA))


EU Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Commissioner Karmenu Vella announced the winners of the European Business Awards for the Environment 2014-15 at an evening ceremony early December. The awards recognise companies that combine competitiveness with respect for the environment in five categories: management, product and services, process innovation, business and biodiversity and international business cooperation. This year’s winners include large corporations and SMEs:

- Eczacıbaşı Yapı Gereçleri (Turkey), a leading producer of ceramic bathroom products and tiles, for management
- EcoNation (Belgium), a company supplying lighting solutions, for product and services
- **Daimler AG (Germany)**, a motor vehicle and engine manufacturer, for process innovation
- **Interface Nederland BV (Netherlands)**, the world's largest designer and maker of carpet tiles, for international business cooperation
- **Red Eléctrica de España (Spain)**, an electricity operator, for business and biodiversity

Read more (Source: European Commission)

3.1.12 10 December - A Magic Date: The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony 2014

The Nobel Laureates have taken center stage in Stockholm on 10 December, when they received the Nobel Medal, Nobel Diploma and a document confirming the Nobel Prize amount from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

In Oslo, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates received their Nobel Peace Prize from the Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee in the presence of King Harald V of Norway. An important part was the presentation of the Nobel Lectures by the Nobel Laureates.

In Stockholm, the lectures are presented days before the Nobel Prize Award Ceremony. In Oslo, the Nobel Laureates deliver their lectures during the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony.

Watch the Award Ceremonies:

2014 Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony
2014 Nobel Prize Award Ceremony
Video clips from the 2014 Nobel Banquet in Stockholm

Source: Nobelprize.org

3.2 Canada

3.2.1 Canada's Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy

The success of Canada's economy, the prosperity of its communities and the well-being of its families depends on advancing cutting edge science, technology and innovation in Canada.

In May 2007, Prime Minister Stephen Harper launched Canada's Science and Technology (S&T) Strategy: *Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage*, and in doing so, outlined a comprehensive plan to make Canada a leader in S&T, research and innovation.

Since then, Canada has made significant progress in fostering entrepreneurs and new businesses. The federal government has provided more than $11 billion in new resources to support basic and applied research, talent development, research infrastructure, and innovative activities since 2006. Canada has also become a prime destination for top researchers and skilled workers from around the world. In fact, it ranks first among G-7 countries in spending on research and development in universities and colleges as a share of its gross domestic product.
Over the past seven years, however, the global landscape has changed, and a renewed strategy is required to provide a framework that more adequately reflects today’s economy and guides federal priorities to promote Canada’s strengths in research.

On December 4, 2014, the Government of Canada launched an updated strategy: *Seizing Canada’s Moment: Moving Forward in Science, Technology and Innovation 2014* which builds on the foundation laid out in the 2007 framework, but goes further to ensure that Canada remains well positioned in the global arena for research excellence, talent and wealth.

The renewed strategy will leverage the expertise and resources of post-secondary institutions, industry and government to translate brilliant theories and ideas into applications that will improve the day-to-day lives of Canadians and generate economic growth and jobs across the country. It will be guided by four core principles: promoting world-leading excellence, focusing on targeted priorities, fostering partnerships and enhancing accountability.

Read more (Source: Government of Canada – Office of the Prime Minister)

### 3.2.2 Canada First Research Excellence Fund

**Challenge**

The Government of Canada’s investments in research and development have made a major contribution to Canada’s strong performance in science, technology and innovation (ST&I). However, our post-secondary institutions face significant competition from their international counterparts in the search for the best minds and partnership opportunities that enable breakthrough discoveries. Canada’s ability to attract top talent, innovators and research partners requires its world-class institutions to be among the best on the global stage.

To meet these objectives, the Government of Canada in Economic Action Plan 2014 announced the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF). The Fund is a $1.5 billion legacy investment to enable Canadian post-secondary institutions to excel globally in research areas that create long-term economic advantages for Canada. Available to all post-secondary institutions on a competitive, peer-reviewed basis, the Fund will position Canada’s post-secondary institutions to compete with the best in the world for talent and breakthrough discoveries.

CFREF is governed by a Steering Committee comprised of the presidents of the three granting agencies – the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research – and the deputy ministers of Health and Industry Canada. SSHRC administers CFREF on behalf of all three granting agencies.

Read more (Source: Government of Canada – Office of the Prime Minister)
3.2.3 Canada Accelerator and Incubator Program (CAIP) - Propel ICT

In 2013, the Government of Canada allocated $60 million over five years through the Economic Action Plan, with an additional $40 million in 2014, to help outstanding incubators and accelerators expand their services to small and medium-sized businesses.

Propel ICT will receive up to $2.9 million in CAIP funding over the next five years to provide local entrepreneurs with the resources and expertise needed to launch their business. Propel ICT works with companies through its Launch 36 program to help them grow and expand their product offering.

The one-time request for the proposals for the Canada Accelerator and Incubator Program was launched on September 23, 2013. It ended on October 30, 2013, with close to 100 applications received. All proposals were assessed and presented for evaluation and recommendations to the independent Canadian Venture Capital Expert Panel, a five-member panel with extensive experience in the venture capital asset class, business, and finance.

The National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) evaluated all proposals based on strict eligibility and selection criteria, including:

- The extent to which the project will encourage the growth of early-stage firms that represent superior investment opportunities;
- The potential of the project to develop entrepreneur networks with other important firms and organizations, in order to provide entrepreneurs with a broader range of specialized services;
- The ability of the organization to demonstrate matching resources, either financial or in-kind, (i.e. mentoring resources, administrative support) for the proposed activities; and,
- A credible demonstration that the proposed activities will be incremental to existing operations.

Delivered by NRC-IRAP, CAIP provides support over a five-year period in the form of non-repayable contributions to a limited number of best-in-class accelerators and incubators. Recipients will be required to demonstrate matching contributions on at least a 1:1 basis during the period of the contribution funding.

Maximum contributions to accelerators and incubators under the program are up to $5 million per year for each selected outstanding organization.

Read more (Source: National Research Council Canada)
3.3 United States of America

3.3.1 As Industry Leaders Seek Innovation, Corporate Accelerators Continue To Emerge

More and more established companies are trying to keep pace with technological changes by increasing their presence in the startup community. Although some companies choose to locate divisions such as software in places like the Bay Area, others are taking a more hands-on approach. Corporate accelerators function as startup accelerators that receive significant and public support from established firms such as financial investments, privileged access to resources, official endorsements by the corporation, as well as continued organizational ties. These accelerators, which continue to emerge both in the United States and abroad, illustrate a full-fledged trend in how established firms are using the startup model to innovate within their industries.

Benefits to established companies working in startup acceleration are not limited to financial returns, notes Peter Lehmann in a master's thesis at the Copenhagen Business School. Accelerators also benefit the startups by allowing entrepreneurs to leverage company resources, while also allowing the existing companies to explore areas of their industry where they are unfamiliar by supporting entrepreneurs. As a result, the corporate accelerator not only offers a window into new technologies and specialized knowledge, but also allows companies to extract new and previously underutilized value from their existing resources.

Read more (Source: State Science & Technology Institute)

3.3.2 State Technology and Science Index 2014

Massachusetts is first – once again – in the Milken Institute’s State Technology and Science Index 2014. The index tracks and evaluates every state’s tech and science capabilities – and their success at converting those assets into companies and high-paying jobs. Conducted every two years for more than a decade, the index has found Massachusetts performing in first place in every edition since 2004.

Across the country, technology and science are paving the way to economic success. Competition at the very top has increased significantly, making it more difficult to break into the top 10. Indeed, the states in the top 10 are the same as those in 2010 and 2012, with only a few changes in rank:

The top 10 (with their previous index rankings in 2012):

1- Massachusetts (1)
2- Maryland (2)
3- California (3)
4- Colorado (4)
5- Utah (7)
6- Washington (5)
7- Virginia (6)
8- New Hampshire (10)
9- Connecticut (9)
10- Delaware (8)
3.3.3 The future of computer science education

A strong foundation in computer science—being able to apply foundational concepts, methods and tools—is required to excel in an increasingly digital and computational world. The National Science Foundation (NSF) leads the nation in supporting the development and teaching of rigorous and engaging computer science (CS) courses. In addition, NSF has a strong commitment to broadening participation in computing through evidence-based practices.

NSF's investments in CS education can be loosely grouped into the four categories below:

- CS curriculum development
- CS teacher professional development
- Broadening participation in computing
- CS Education Partnerships

3.4 Cooperation EU/Canada – EU/USA

3.4.1 The Takuvik Joint International Laboratory and BNP Paribas Foundation: Partners in research on permafrost thaw

A Canadian and French consortium, coordinated by the Takuvik Joint International Laboratory and supported by the BNP Paribas Foundation, is launching its APT Project, for Acceleration of Permafrost Thaw By Snow–Vegetation Interactions. This important research initiative studies how climate change is accelerating the thawing of permafrost, a phenomenon that is still poorly understood.

The APT Project’s objective is to accurately predict temperature changes in permafrost (soil or rock that remains frozen year round) while taking into account new feedback mechanisms in order to predict the amount of greenhouse gas emissions generated by thawing permafrost and quantify permafrost–climate feedback. The consortium will explore how permafrost temperature changes impact Arctic vegetation, wildlife, landscapes, and geomorphology, the lifestyle and infrastructure of Inuit populations, and climate change, while also examining the environmental threats posed by such changes. Researchers will also attempt to model the rate at which permafrost is thawing.

An estimated 1,600 billion tons of carbon are trapped in permafrost—twice the amount currently found in the atmosphere. When permafrost thaws due to climate change, the carbon it contains can be transformed into CO2 (carbon dioxide) and CH4 (methane). Released into the atmosphere, these gases could cause a massive increase in the greenhouse effect, resulting in one of the most powerful positive climate feedback mechanisms ever.

Read more (Source: Université Laval)
3.4.2 SSH research and education essential for mankind

Upon invitation of the League of European Research Universities (LERU) and Leiden University, some of the world’s leading research university associations gathered in Leiden, the Netherlands, to discuss and stress the importance of Social Sciences and Humanities research in a globalized world.

Mankind is confronted with complex problems such as economic fragility, religious extremism or an ageing population. Solving these, and many other problems cannot be done without Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH).

The research in SSH is crucial in developing the knowledge to confront these complex societal problems because it contributes to better cross-cultural understanding, whether this be through history, law, economics, literature, sociology or any other SSH discipline. Furthermore a fully effective implementation of technological responses to global challenges requires a profound understanding of human needs, values and motivations.

Next to essential research, Social Sciences and Humanities have an crucial role in educating us how to understand, interpret, and respect our commonalities and our differences. Increased globalization brings increased cultural, social, and economic tensions. Therefore a peaceful and sustainable future based on successful economic and societal development requires an awareness of different perspectives and an understanding of diverse cultures, histories and social institutions. Mutual understanding can foster the respect necessary for a peaceful and stable world order in which economic and societal progress is possible.

The League of European Research Universities (LERU), the Association of American Universities (AAU), the Association of East Asian Research Universities (AERU), the Group of Eight Australia, the RU11 Japan, the Russell Group (UK), and the U15 (Canada) committed themselves to working together to advance the characteristics described in the ‘Leiden Statement’.

Read more (Source: League of European Research Universities (LERU))

3.4.3 European and Canadian program funders discuss joint opportunities

ERA-Can+ invited European and Canadian program owners to join for a Programme Level Cooperation Meeting on November 18, 2014 in Ottawa. The purpose of this meeting was to explore how Canadians and Europeans may partner under existing frameworks/joint programs and to better understand these various initiatives.

In the evening ERA-Can+ held a reception to further engage the participants in bilateral discussions.PLC_Ottawa2 There was interest generated and follow up discussions will occur. ERA Can+ hopes to hold another meeting in the near future.

Read more (Source: ERA-Can+)
3.4.4 December Newsletter of the German-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research

In this issue:
• The Rise of Smart Cities
• 2014 Alberta-Germany Collaboration Fund Matchmaking Symposia
• Konrad Adenauer Research Award for Canadian Scholars
• Exciting Events
• Upcoming Events and Calls for Application
• GCRI, New York - Newsletter

Read more (German Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research)

3.4.5 Expected stay rates of US and foreign doctoral graduates diverge with time: Numbers are important for policymakers and researchers

A new National Science Foundation (NSF) report reveals the number of U.S. citizen doctoral graduates in science, engineering and health fields, who remain in the United States, tracks closely with their intent to stay in the United States at the time of graduation. However, there are noticeable differences for doctoral graduates who were temporary visa holders at the time of graduation.

According to the report, 96.4 percent of U.S. citizen doctoral graduates from academic years 2001-09 reported their intent to live in the United States, a measure referred to as the expected stay rate. In 2010, 96.2 percent—the actual stay rate—were still living in the United States.

Among doctoral graduates who were temporary visa holders, 76.4 percent reported their intention to stay in the United States. However, the actual and expected stay rates diverge as time since graduation increases. By 2010, only 68.5 percent of graduates with a temporary visa remained in the United States.

The data presented in this report are important for policymakers and researchers who are interested in understanding the factors influencing the employment decisions of doctoral degree holders.

See more from this report: Employment Decisions of U.S. and Foreign Doctoral Graduates: A Comparative Study.

For more information and statistical products, please visit NSF’s National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

Source: US National Science Foundation

3.4.6 Chemists from around the world form new center to reinvent how chemicals are made

NSF’s Center for Selective C-H Functionalization hopes to trim the cost and environmental impact of pharmaceuticals, agrichemicals and smart materials

Up until now, chemists who want to design breakthrough drugs, formulate better agrichemicals and develop new smart materials have designed their products using long-established laboratory methods. But, that’s about to change.
With support from the National Science Foundation (NSF), organic chemist Huw Davies and his colleagues at Emory University have brought together an all-star team, including research faculty and students from universities around the U.S. and the world, to create the Center for Selective C-H Functionalization (CCHF). Their goal is to reinvent how chemicals are made!

C–H Functionalization has the potential to impact the way in which researchers construct all organic molecules and, hence, the chemistry that underpins much of modern medicine and manufacturing. By removing the field's reliance on functional groups, complex organic molecules can be made in a streamlined, cost-effective and environmentally benign fashion.

The CCHF is one of the NSF-funded Centers for Chemical Innovation (CCI), which are focused on major, long-term fundamental chemical research challenges. CCIs are producing transformative research that is leading to innovation and attracting broad scientific and public interest.

Source: US National Science Foundation

3.4.7 Breast cancer: United States to invest in Italian research

Researchers from the Cell and Tissue Engineering Laboratory of IRCCS Istituto Ortopedico Galeazzi in Milan have won a prestigious call for projects published by the U.S. Congress and Department of Defense for the development of new treatments for bone metastases due to breast cancer. The Italian project – coordinated by researchers Matteo Moretti, Chiara Arrigoni and Simone Bersino – is one of the funded 12 projects out of 308 submitted under this specific program.

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) consist of a set of programs aimed at encouraging medical-scientific research which include a fund considerable allocation by the U.S. Congress and Department of Defense every year. The programs are focused on a number of scientific areas, including struggle against breast cancer.

The project submitted by IRCCS Istituto Ortopedico Galeazzi aims at investigating the mechanism regulating the passage of cancer cells from blood to bone by using 3D models of vascularized tissues reproduced inside microchips, so that they can act on blood vessels and prevent metastasis spreading. The U.S. Committee that selected this projects consists of keynote members of medicine and research communities, as well as associations of patients who have deemed that this project will strongly impact the future of patients who develop this disease.

Source: Research Italy - IRCCS Istituto Ortopedico Galeazzi
4 Grants & Fellowships

4.1 Europe

4.1.1 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, named after the double Nobel Prize winning Polish-French scientist famed for her work on radioactivity, support researchers at all stages of their careers, regardless of nationality. Researchers working across all disciplines, from life-saving healthcare to 'blue-sky' science, are eligible for funding. The MSCA also support industrial doctorates, combining academic research study with work in companies, and other innovative training that enhances employability and career development.

In addition to generous research funding, scientists have the possibility to gain experience abroad and in the private sector, and to complete their training with competences or disciplines useful for their careers. More information about various funding schemes and requirements for applying is available here.

Open call:

- H2020-MSCA-ITN-2015

Deadline: 13/01/2015

4.1.2 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions: Pocket guide

Considering a doctoral degree? Looking for partnerships between academic and non-academic organisations or staff exchanges? Keen on outreach activities? There is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie action for you.

The EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions fund all kind of opportunities for researchers from Europe and beyond. This starter booklet gives you the needed information to make the right first choice.

Guide available for downloading or on-line reading here.

4.1.3 Fulbright-Schuman Program

The Fulbright-Schuman Program, administered by the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States and Belgium, is jointly financed by the U.S. State Department and the Directorate-General for Education and Culture of the European Commission. The program funds graduate and post-graduate study, research, and lecture proposals in the field of US-EU relations, EU policy, or EU institutions for interested American and EU citizens.

More information

4.1.4 European Research Council Grants

Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for a European Research Council (ERC) grant to go 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 call:
- ERC Starting Grant | ERC-2015-StG

Deadline Date: 3 February 2015
- ERC Consolidator Grant | ERC-2015-CoG

Deadline Date: 12 Mar 2015
- ERC Proof of Concept | ERC-2015-PoC

Deadline Dates: 5 Feb 2015, 28 May 2015 and 1 Oct 2015

More information: European Research Council

4.1.5 Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers one or two-year fellowships to postdocs in an early stage of their academic career. Priority will be given to proposals that fit well with one or more of the Centre's core research themes: European Institutions, Governance and Democracy, Migration, Economic and Monetary Policy, Competition Policy and Market Regulation, Energy Policy and Climate Policy, Global Governance & International and Transnational Relations of the EU.

More information

4.1.6 EMBO: Fellowships

The European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) brings together more than 1500 leading researchers within 27 Member states and promotes excellence in the life sciences.

Young scientists actively seek EMBO Long-Term Fellowships for postdoctoral research to fund and support their internationally mobile careers. The EMBO Long-Term Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years and support post-doctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe. International exchange is a key feature in the application process.

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. They 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: 13 February 2015 (Long-Term), rolling basis (Short-Term)

4.1.7 European Respiratory Society/EU RESPIRE2 postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellowship

ERS/EU RESPIRE2 postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellowship opportunities in the broad field of respiratory science, co-funded by the European Union. The
programme is aimed at experienced researchers from any discipline and will help fellows to become the future leaders in respiratory research.

3rd and final round to be launched in early 2015.

More information

4.1.8 Erasmus+ joint Master Degrees

Scholarships for 116 different Joint Master Degree programmes starting in September 2015. Between 13 and 20 student scholarship holders and 4 invited scholars/guest lecturers per intake can take part. Find out more about Joint Master Degrees here as well as the list of participating universities here.

4.1.9 2015 Erasmus+ call for proposals

Open to any public or private body active in the fields of education, training, youth and sport may apply for funding within the Erasmus+ Programme. See the Erasmus+ Programme Guide for the 2015 General Call for Proposals for detailed conditions for participating in the call for proposals, as well as information on the priorities for funding. It constitutes an integral part of the 2015 Erasmus+ Call for Proposals. Depending on the action and thematic line, deadlines vary from 4 February 2015 to 1 October 2015.

4.1.10 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 portal.

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, FYRoMacedonia, 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 Austria: CeMM PhD Program

CeMM is an international, independent and interdisciplinary Research Center for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. “From the clinic to the clinic”: Driven by medical needs, CeMM integrates basic research and clinical expertise to pursue innovative diagnostic and therapeutic approaches focused on cancer, inflammation and immune disorders.

The PhD Program will train a new generation of researchers based on a novel, post-genomic, molecular understanding of biological and pathological systems and will thereby contribute to shaping the predictive, preventive and personalized (also termed “precise”) medicine of the future. To reach this goal, students will be made familiar not only with biomedical technologies, but also with the basic principles of cell- and molecular biology and the application of this knowledge for a molecular understanding of diseases and targeted therapeutic
concepts. The PhD students will also learn how to navigate the complexity of translationally-minded multidisciplinary biomedical projects at the level of communication and management.

The next call for applications will open on 9th January 2015.

More information

4.2.2 Austria: DART – Doctoral Program in Accounting, Reporting, and Taxation

DART, the program in Accounting, Reporting, and Taxation. DART is a doctoral program of excellence in accounting, located in Graz and Vienna, Austria. Its main activity is PhD level education. DART faculty members are very well connected within the international accounting community. DART offers a stimulating learning and research environment plus financial support to outstanding students from around the world. DART graduates can look forward to a rewarding career at leading academic institutions and in specialist areas of accounting practice.

The deadline for applications is March 31st, 2015.

More information

4.2.3 Austria: Ernst Mach Grant – worldwide

The Ernst Mach Grants are named after the famous Austrian physicist and philosopher Ernst Mach (1838–1916). The grant program is financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWFFW). Students and young researchers from foreign universities are invited to apply for this grant to come to Austria for a research or a study stay. Every year a board of representatives of the Austrian Ministry awards the Ernst Mach Grants based on the results of an expert examination procedure. Age limit for this grant program is 35 years at the time of the application.

Deadline: March 1st, 2015 for stays during the following academic year.

More information

4.2.4 Austria: Franz Werfel Grant

Franz Werfel, who was born 1890 in Prague and died 1945 in California, is one of the most famous representatives of Austrian Literature. Therefore the Franz Werfel Grant addresses itself to young university teachers whose work focuses on Austrian Literature. The grant programme, which was initiated in 1992, is open to applicants from all over the world. Recipients of Werfel grants can work as visiting researchers at university departments and carry out specialist studies in libraries, archives or at research institutions.

This grant does not only offer material support for up to 18 months but through follow-up support also guarantees sustainability.

Closing date for application: March 1st and September 15th (new)

More information
4.2.5 Austria: Lise Meitner Program for Scientists from Abroad

Target group: Highly qualified scientists of any discipline who could contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by working at it.
Requirements: completed doctoral studies, international scientific publications, no age limit, invitation from an Austrian research institution.

No deadline – call constantly open.

More information

4.2.6 Austria: IST PhD Program

The Graduate School of IST Austria allows students to earn a PhD degree. It is open to applicants from all over the world holding either a Bachelor or Master degree (or equivalent). All participants are selected in an annual, institute-wide admissions procedure that assesses their research potential.

WHO? Open to highly qualified students from all disciplines of the natural sciences, mathematics, computer sciences and any related interdisciplinary areas. Applicants must hold a Master's or Bachelor's degree or anticipate the completion of the degree before September 2015. Participating students are expected to be proficient in written and oral English. Students admitted to the program will be offered employment contracts at IST Austria and will receive a salary with full social security coverage. Entering students holding a Master's degree will have four-year contracts, and students holding a Bachelor's degree, five-year contracts. Deadline: 15 January 2015

More information

4.2.7 Austria: IST FELLOW*: Call for Postdoctoral Fellows

Are you a talented, dynamic, and motivated scientist looking for an opportunity to conduct research in the fields of BIOLOGY, COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS, or NEUROSCIENCE at a young, thriving institution that fosters scientific excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration?

Apply to the IST Fellow program

Applications are accepted at any time for the IST FELLOW program, but fellows will be selected twice a year in October and April. The application deadlines for each selection are the 15th of September and the 15th of March, respectively.

* IST FELLOW is partially funded by the European Union

More information

4.2.8 Austria: The Austrian Science Fund and funding categories

The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) is Austria’s central funding organization for basic research.

The purpose of the FWF is to support the ongoing development of Austrian science and basic research at a high international level. In this way, the FWF
makes a significant contribution to cultural development, to the advancement of our knowledge-based society, and thus to the creation of value and wealth in Austria. One of the FWF's most important goals is to promote the internationalisation of basic research in Austria by taking special organisational measures, creating suitable framework conditions, and offering concrete funding instruments for this purpose.

More information

4.2.9 Austria: Richard Plaschka Scholarship

The grant is named after the Austrian historian, who died in 2001 and who worked at the University of Vienna as a university professor for Eastern European history from 1967 to 1993. In 1981/1982 he was the rector of the University of Vienna. Moreover he was the head of the Austrian East and Southeast Europe Institute from 1958 to 1988. Throughout his life Richard Plaschka committed himself to a cross-border and joint way dealing with the history in the eastern and south-eastern European area. The grant recipients should place emphasis on cross-border collaboration in their scientific activities.

Applications are open to university lecturers of history whose main focus of academic interest is Austrian history. Recipients of Plaschka grants can work as visiting researchers at university departments and carry out specialist studies in libraries, archives or at research institutions.

Grants are awarded for up to 18 months; follow-up support is scheduled for grant recipients who have consumed at least 12 scholarship months.

Deadline: March 1st and September 15th (new)

More information

4.2.10 Austria: Vienna Graduate School of Economics

The grant of the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) allows VGSE to offer attractive fellowships to the best applicants. VGSE is highly selective with all types of students. Students who receive a full fellowship scored highest on the selection criteria. The criteria we use to select students can be found under application. The application for the program automatically includes the application for a fellowship.

Deadline: January 31st and April 30th

More information

4.2.11 Austria: Young Scientists Summer Program at IIASA

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis IIASA's annual 3-month Young Scientists Summer Program (YSSP) in Austria offers research opportunities to talented PhD students whose interests correspond with IIASA's ongoing research on issues of global environmental, economic and social change. The program offers a wide range of scientific events, including both social and natural sciences, often with important policy dimensions. On-line applications. Deadline: 12 January 2015.
4.2.12 Belgium: first “MOVE-IN LOUVAIN” call for incoming post-docs

UCL (Université catholique de Louvain) and two partner institutions (Université Saint-Louis and Université de Namur) also based in Belgium launched a call within the new "MOVE-IN LOUVAIN" project, co-financed by the Marie Curie Actions of the European Union. This new project, which is targeted at incoming researchers, aims at reinforcing the international dimension of the three partner institutions by supporting highly-qualified postdocs from abroad. The scheme is based on a bottom-up approach as all research fields are eligible (Sciences and Technology, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Health Sciences). The ultimate ambition is to build scientific and technological (S&T) collaborations and long-lasting networks between the respective research teams.

Deadline: 1 January 2015

More information

4.2.13 Belgium: Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique

Brief Outgoing Fellowships

This funding is devoted to researchers working in a university of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation who would like to go abroad for a short stay to acquire new knowledge. Various research fields. All nationalities. Deadline/Request 3 months prior to the stay outside Europe.

More information

4.2.14 Belgium: Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique

(F.R.S.-FNRS) - Post-doctoral temporary fellowship

This funding aims to finance a research fellowship (up to 3 years) for a non-Belgian PhD holder coming from abroad to work for a research programme financed by F.R.S.-FNRS. Various Research Fields.

More information

4.2.15 Belgium: Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)

International Mobility

The FWO encourages mobility among researchers and international contacts between research groups. For this purpose, FWO offers different possibilities to researchers to go abroad and to build international networks.

More information

4.2.16 Belgium: Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) - PhD and Postdoctoral fellowships

The Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO) is the main funding agency for basic, frontier research in Flanders. This kind of research is very often performed at the universities in Flanders. The FWO is very keen to promote international collaborations as a driving force for excellence. The candidates
must submit a proof that the university trustees grant him or her permission to prepare a PhD thesis (for PhD fellowships) or that he has a PhD or equivalent degree.

PhD Fellowships: these fellowships are also open to non-EU candidates but they must have a basic master’s degree from one of the countries within the European Economic Area (+Switzerland). Postdoctoral fellowships: no nationality requirements

Duration: PhD fellowships: 2 years, renewable once; Postdoctoral fellowships: 3 years, renewable once

**Deadline: 1 February**

More information: [PhD fellowships](#), [Postdoctoral fellowships](#)

4.2.17 Czech Republic: Office of Naval Research: Visiting Scientist Program (VSP)

VSP is designed to facilitate visits by foreign technologists with Department of the Navy counterparts for the purpose of collaboration. The visits are typically to the United States, but can be to non-U.S. locations of special interest to the Department of the Navy science and technology community. Along with Liaison Visits, the Science & Technology Insertion Program is part of a process to develop international collaborations. Requests should be received at least eight weeks in advance of the proposed visit.

[More information](#)

4.2.18 Denmark: Ministry of Higher Education and Science: PhD scholarships outside the universities

The Danish Council for Independent Research invites proposals for PhD scholarships to be carried out at Danish research institutions outside the universities.

[More information](#)

4.2.19 Estonia: Scholarships

The Estonian Government offers a number of scholarships intended for university students, researchers or lecturers for studying and doing research at Estonian public universities and institutions. Mostly scholarships are for the master’s degree or doctoral degree, but some bachelor degree scholarships are also possible.

[More information](#)

4.2.20 Estonia: EMBO Installation Grants

European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) Installation Grants offer benefits not only to talented scientists but also to the countries where they establish laboratories. The aim is to support the development of the local research cultures and infrastructures. EMBO Installation Grants help scientists relocate and set up research laboratories in (Czech Republic, Poland, Portugal,
and Turkey). Successful applicants receive an annual support of 50,000 euro and benefits similar to those of the EMBO Young Investigator Programme.

The deadline for applications is **15 April of each year.**

More information

### 4.2.21 Finland: CIMO Fellowships

The CIMO Fellowships programme is open to young doctoral level students and researchers from all countries and from all academic fields. Master’s level studies or postdoctoral studies/research are not supported in the programme.

There are no annual application deadlines in the CIMO Fellowship programme. Applications may be considered at all times. However, please note that applications should be submitted at least 5 months before the intended scholarship period. Decisions will be made within approximately 3 months after receipt of application.

More information

### 4.2.22 Finland: Säätiöiden post doc - pooli - the Foundations’ Post Doc Pool

Säätiöiden post doc -pooli (“the Foundations’ Post Doc Pool”) is a grant resource set up by Finnish foundations and intended for postdoctoral research abroad.

The Pool’s aim is to make Finnish research more international by offering young scholars flexible funding from one source that covers all expenses of a research period abroad for at least one academic year.

Säätiöiden post doc -pooli has two application rounds per year. The spring application round takes place in December-January and the autumn application round in August-September.

The pool grants are intended only for sending researchers abroad from Finland. The pool grants are not intended for subsidizing researchers’ mobility from other countries to Finland.

More information

### 4.2.23 France: Overview of research exchange programs US – France

The Office for Science and Technology (OST) located in the French Embassy to the United States (Washington D.C.) regularly updates an overview of research exchange programs addressing all categories of researchers in various areas. A specific section of the OST website contains current calls for proposals, career opportunities, and information on French higher education programs.

Download the [USA to France Research Exchange Programs booklet in PDF format.](http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess)

Open Calls for Proposals [here.](http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess)

The France-Stanford Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, founded in partnership with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aims to bridge the disciplines of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, Engineering, Business and Law, addressing historical and contemporary issues of significance ...

Deadline: March 16, 2015

Chateaubriand Fellowships: Call for Applications 2015-2016

The Chateaubriand Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM), offered by the Embassy of France in the United States, Office for Science and Technology, aims to initiate or reinforce collaborations, partnerships or joint projects by encouraging exchange at the ...

Deadline: January 20, 2015

Eiffel Excellence Scholarship Program - Call for application 2014

The Eiffel Excellence Scholarship Program was established to enable French higher education establishments to attract top foreign students to enroll in their master's and PhD courses.

Deadline: January 9, 2015

More information

4.2.24 France: 15 Postdoctoral Fellowships on Biology and Information Technologies

Call for applications launched by the French Atomic and Alternative Energies Commission (CEA).

WHAT? 2 years post-doctoral fellowships on:
- Genetics and Personalized Medicine
- Functional Imaging of Plants
- 3D cell culture Imaging
- Engineered Protein based Materials

Working language is English and knowledge of French language is not necessary. The host Institutes are located in Grenoble, Cadarache and Paris-Saclay.

WHO? open to PhD in physics, informatics, biology, chemistry or engineering of all nationalities

No specific deadline: The positions are open until they filled by appropriate candidates. Applicants are selected in a competitive process.

More information

4.2.25 Germany: RISE professional 2015 - Internships with German companies
Engineering, Geology and Physics a unique opportunity to gain practical, career-building experience working in a German company for the summer.

Good research relies on cooperation, and international teamwork is becoming increasingly important. This means that scientists and engineers with international experience are increasingly sought after in both business and industry. The number of truly exciting professional work programs abroad for students in the sciences and engineering is still far too small. Because of this DAAD set out to create unique opportunities for science and engineering students from the United States and Canada interested in gaining serious practical experience in Germany.

Recent graduates, Master and PhD students from North American universities in the fields of biology, chemistry, engineering, geology and physics (or a closely related field) and students from Coop programs are invited to apply. Undergraduates who are RISE alumni or former DAAD scholarship holders are also eligible. German language requirements depend on the nature of the internship.

The internship database is open now from December 6, 2014 to January 31, 2015. Applications must be submitted until January 31, 2015.

More information

4.2.26 Germany – Canada: Joint Funding Opportunity by the Canadian Space Agency and the German Aerospace Center

The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and the German Aerospace Center (DLR) announced an opportunity in their Earth Observation Applications Development Program. Follow the links for

funding information at the Canadian Space Agency
funding information at the German Space Administration (in German)

4.2.27 Germany: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation: German Chancellor Fellowships for Prospective Leaders

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation offers prospective leaders from Brazil, China, India, Russia and the USA the opportunity to conduct a project as guests of the partner of their choice in Germany.

With the support of their hosts, the fellows can spend a year concentrating on a project of their choice and give their career a boost. German Chancellor Fellowships are open to an array of sectors such as politics, public administration and business, as well as society and culture.

Next deadline: 15 March 2015

More information
4.2.28 Germany: 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 ‘Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt’ (DLR - German Aerospace Center) 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**. DLR-DAAD Fellowships offer outstanding scientists and researchers the opportunity to conduct special research at the institutes of the DLR in Germany.

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. The current offers are published under [DLR-DAAD Fellowships - Current Offers](#) on the homepages of the DAAD and the DLR. Currently there are open positions in Aeronautics; Space; Transportation; Energy. **The application deadline depends on the offer.**

**More information**

4.2.29 Greece: 21st Foreigners’ Fellowships programme - Academic Year: October 2015 - September 2016

The Foundation announces the twenty-first (21st) annual Programme of research grants and educational scholarships starting on October 1st, 2015, which is addressed to non-Greeks, University Professors of all levels (Ph.D. holders), postdoctoral researchers (Ph.D. holders) and Ph.D. candidates

The Programme covers the following fields only:

- **Humanities:** Philology, Literature, Linguistics, History, Archaeology, Philosophy, Educational Studies, Psychology
- **Social Science (excluding Law):** Political Sciences, Sociology, International and European Studies, Administration Sciences, Social Policy
- **Economic Science:** Maritime Studies, Finance, Public Finance
- **Arts:** Art History, Visual Arts, Music, Dance, Theatre, Photography, Film Studies, New Media, Cultural administration, (only Theoretic Studies, artists are not included)

- **The consideration of an eventual interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach/dimension for the proposed research** would be highly appreciated

**Deadline for submission of candidatures:** **January 31st 2015**

**More information**
4.2.30 Greece: Summer Intensive Course in Modern Greek - Language Scholarship - Aristotle University of Thessaloniki – Department of Studies

A number of monthly scholarships are awarded to foreign undergraduate or postgraduate students of universitites abroad for the purpose of attending the Summer Intensive Course in Modern Greek Language that takes place every year between mid August to mid September.

The scholarship covers the registration and tuition fees of the Course and - depending on approval of the relevant funds- may also award a 450 Euro living sustenance as partial reimbursement for whatever personal expenses during attendance. The grant is payable following completion of the Course, whenever this becomes available within the same fiscal year and provided that grantees meet all their obligations to the programme.

Calls are published online. Applications are submitted from October onwards until February 28th. Results in June (preliminary list) until mid July (altornates)

More information

4.2.31 Lithuania: Lithuanian Research Council: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Researchers from Lithuania and abroad who have been awarded a Ph.D. degree within a period of 3 years can apply for Postdoctoral Fellowships. Any higher education institution, research institute, research center or other research establishments and enterprises in Lithuania can act as a host institution.

More information

4.2.32 Luxembourg: National Research Fund (FNR): ATTRACT 2015

The ATTRACT programme by the National Research Fund (FNR) aims to support Luxembourgish research institutions to expand their competences in strategic research areas, by attracting outstanding young researchers with high potential to Luxembourg.

The programme is designed for researchers not yet established in Luxembourg; it offers them the opportunity to set up an independent research team within a public-sector research institution in Luxembourg that is willing to host them. Research proposals should be submitted jointly by the candidate and the host institution, which has to provide a clear and attractive career track to the candidate.

Next deadline: 12 January 2015 (Joint Submission by the candidate and the Luxembourg host research institution of a pre-proposal).

More information
4.2.33 Luxembourg: National Research Fund (FNR): INTER Mobility: Call for Proposals 2015

The aim of the INTER Mobility Programme is to promote the scientific exchange between research groups of the Luxembourg public research institutions and research groups abroad in order to foster innovative, internationally competitive research and support the exchange of key knowledge and technological know-how.

Next deadline: 20 January 2015

More information

4.2.34 Luxembourg: National Research Fund (FNR): AFR PhD Grants

The FNR’s AFR PhD Grant Scheme (Aides à la Formation-Recherche) provides funding for PhD research training projects in Luxembourg and abroad for up to 4 years.

The forthcoming Call AFR PHD 2015-1 will be launched in Mid December 2014. The deadline for the submission of proposals will be 17 March 2015, with a communication of the funding decisions in Mid June 2015.

More information

4.2.35 Malta: University of Malta: Junior Research Fellowships

Junior Research Fellowships are available as part of the Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellowships. Open to doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients who are U.S. citizens.

More information

4.2.36 Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO): Innovation Research Incentives Scheme (Veni)

The Innovational Research Incentives Scheme offers personal grants to talented, creative researchers. The funding enables applicants to do their own line of research. This boosts innovative research and promotes mobility within scientific research institutes.

Next deadline: 6 January 2015

More information

4.2.37 Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO): Visitor’s Travel Grant

Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor’s grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.

Next deadline: Continuous application

More information
4.2.38 Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO): Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW)

The best PhD students from NSF’s Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) can do 3 to 12 months of research abroad thanks to GROW.

GROW is a collaboration between the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the United States and 12 partner countries.

More information

4.2.39 Norway: Fulbright Norway: The US-Norway Fulbright Grant Program

The U.S.-Norway Fulbright Foundation offers a range of mobility scholarships to students and researchers for stays with Norwegian and American host organizations.

More information

4.2.40 Norway: NORAM Scholarships: Scholarships for Americans

The purpose of the scholarships are to provide financial support for Americans coming to Norway to conduct post-graduate study or research in areas of mutual importance to Norway and the United States. By awarding scholarships to american students or researchers, knowledge and understanding will increase, and it will strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries.

Next deadline: 1 April 2015

More information

4.2.41 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: KOLUMB – supporting grants

Programme-supporting grants is an additional offer to KOLUMB programme laureates (for those who participated through the 2009 edition). The aim of the grant is to enable young researchers to take full advantage of gained knowledge and skills during further work in Polish research institutions.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

More information

4.2.42 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: IDEAS FOR POLAND

The objective of the program is to encourage young, brilliant researchers from all over the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out their research projects submitted for the ERC competition. The program 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.

Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

More information
4.2.43 Poland: Thesaurus Poloniae Programme

Thesaurus Poloniae is a three-month fellowship programme of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland. The programme is implemented by the International Cultural Centre in Krakow, the city being a leading Polish academic centre. The programme is addressed to non-residents of Poland (Junior Programme for PhD candidates and Senior Programme for PhD holders) who conduct their research on cultural heritage of Poland and Central Europe.

Next deadline: 18 January 2015

More information

4.2.44 Portugal: Science and Technology Foundation: Doctoral Program Scholarships

FCT and the Information and Communication Technologies Institute (ICTI) open a call for applications for PhD Scholarships, taking place in Portugal and at the Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), in the following fields:

- Applied Mathematics
- Technological Change and Entrepreneurship
- Engineering and Public Policy

Next deadline: 15 January 2015

More information

4.2.45 Slovakia: Slovak Academic Information Agency (SAIA): USA – The Fulbright Specialists Program (Teaching/research stays for 2-6 weeks)

Next deadline: rolling basis

More information

4.2.46 Slovakia: SAIA: Society in Science – The Branco Weiss Fellowship (Postdoctoral Research Fellowships)

Society in Science fellows can expect financial support for up to five years, as well as the opportunity to work at any academic institution of their choice throughout the world. The fellows belong to a diverse, dedicated and intellectually stimulating group. They meet at least once a year to present and discuss their research projects to scientific and public audiences.

Next deadline: January 2015

More information
4.2.47 Spain: Ministry of Economy and Finance: Postdoctoral Senior Grants

Within the National Programme for the Promotion of Talent and Its Employability a programme called National Sub-Programme for Incorporation is now open for applications.

Next deadline: 20 January 2015

More information

4.2.48 Spain: Institute for Theoretical Physics (IFT) UAM-CSIC: “la Caixa” - Severo Ochoa International PhD Programme

The Institute for Theoretical Physics UAM-CSIC, Severo Ochoa Center of Excellence, and the Autónoma University of Madrid open three fellowships for exceptional candidates to carry out a PhD thesis at the IFT.

Next deadline: 31 March 2015

More information

4.2.49 Sweden: Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (FORTE): Postdoc

The purpose of the postdoc grants is to give younger, recently graduated researchers the possibility to continue their research career after obtaining their PhD. A postdoc grant amounts to SEK 800,000 per year including overhead. The grant is awarded for two years and is supposed to cover a full-time salary. The receiver of a postdoc grant is allowed to develop his or her research freely within the area determined in the research plan. The grant should be administered by a Swedish university or equivalent.

Next deadline: 29 January 2015

More information

4.2.50 Sweden: Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (FORTE): Junior Researcher/Outlines

Forte has a yearly call for junior researcher grants with submission of outlines in January and full applications in May. Forte junior research grants are designed for young researchers and can be applied for up to six years after the PhD degree has been obtained.

Next deadline: 29 January 2015

More information
4.2.51 Sweden: The Swedish Research Council Formas: Young Scientists Summer Program at IIASA – International Institute for Applied System Analysis

IIASA’s annual 3-month Young Scientists Summer Program (YSSP) in Austria offers research opportunities to 50-55 talented PhD students whose interests correspond with IIASA’s ongoing research on real life global issues such as climate change, energy, food & water, economics, and poverty. The program offers a wide range of scientific events, including both social and natural sciences, often with important policy dimensions.

Online applications for the 2015 program will be accepted from 1 October 2014 until 12 January 2015.

More information

4.2.52 Sweden: VINNOVA: VINNER Marie Curie Incoming Fellowship

The purpose of this call is to support experienced researcher careers through mobility and international collaborations.

Next deadline: 17 March 2015 (called opened on 17 September 2014)

More information

4.2.53 Turkey: TÜBİTAK: Fellowships for Visiting Scientists and Scientists on Sabbatical Leave

In order to contribute to the improvement of human resources and the research in Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities (*) at universities, research institutions and industry in TURKEY, eminent scientists/researchers are supported to visit to Turkey by giving seminars/conferences/lectures, or doing R&D activities.

Next deadline: applications are accepted on a rolling basis

More information

4.2.54 United Kingdom: The British Academy and the Royal Society: Newton International Fellowships

The Newton International Fellowship scheme will select the very best early stage post-doctoral researchers from all over the world, and offer support for two years at UK research institutions. The long-term aim of the scheme is to build a global pool of research leaders and encourage long-term international collaboration with the UK.

The next round for applications opens on 7th January 2015 and closes on 25th February 2015.

More information
4.2.55 United Kingdom: BBSRC: International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS)

The aim is to help scientists add an international dimension to their BBSRC funded research by making and establishing new contacts with international counterparts.

Next deadline: the call is currently OPEN – apply any time

More information

4.2.56 United Kingdom: RCUK & NSF/SBE: Co-lead Agency Agreement PILOT

The Arts and Humanities Research Council of the UK and the US National Science Foundation have been collaborating in support of research of mutual interest for several years. A Memorandum of Understanding is in place to encourage interdisciplinary research and facilitate the peer-review and joint-funding of USA-UK collaborative research in areas at the intersection of the two agencies' missions.

Next deadline: See agreement for details

More information

4.3 Databases and Further Information

4.3.1 Austria: Database of scholarships and research grants available

Austria’s most comprehensive database for scholarships and research grants in German and the English language offers an overview of about 1,200 funding opportunities for incoming and outgoing researchers, graduates and students.

More information

4.3.2 Austria: Information from the Office of Science & Technology in Washington D.C.

"Building bridges of knowledge and expertise between Austria and North America" - this is the mission of the Office of Science & Technology (OST) at the Embassy of Austria in Washington, D.C. The OST is the strategic interface in the sciences, research, and research policy between Austria and North America. OST staff can inform you on most relevant funding opportunities in Austria.

4.3.3 Belgium: a comprehensive webportal

Calls for proposals are published all through the year on the Belgian Federal portal for research and innovation.

Further information

4.3.4 Canada: ERA-Can+ Project - Promoting Canada-EU research

The ERA-Can+ project helps you to identify funding opportunities in Canadian Programs, as well as funding opportunities in Europe for Canadian researchers.
4.3.5 Canada: Government of Canada - International scholarship

Canada is committed to participation in international study and research partnerships, which build understanding among peoples, develop global citizens and leaders, and contribute to the development of nations.

For Canadians: Learn about opportunities for graduate study and research abroad.

For Non-Canadians: Learn about opportunities for study and research in Canada.

4.3.6 Cyprus: the Research Promotion Foundation

The Research Promotion Foundation (RPF) promotes the development of scientific and technological research in Cyprus. The RPF has established a list of research stakeholders, some offering funding opportunities.

4.3.7 Denmark: Funding programmes for research and innovation and Danish Innovation Centre in the USA

The Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education has published an exhaustive guide to Danish funding programmes. Innovation Centre Denmark, Silicon Valley, provides you with information about Danish research environment and funding opportunities.

4.3.8 Estonia: Estonia Research portal

Estonian Research Portal is the public section of the Estonian Research Information System. It gives an overview on various aspects of Estonian R&D including funding opportunities.

4.3.9 Finland: Key links to Finnish funding agencies and opportunities

Funding for scientific research in Finland comes predominantly from private companies and the government. Other important sources of funding include various funds and foundations. Here are some of the biggest funding agencies.

4.3.10 France: Find your PhD with the new website "PhD in France"

This website presents French PhD offers on one platform and is open to all foreign students.

This site aggregates the offers of the laboratories and universities in France. It helps in making research simple for all foreign and English-speaking students wishing to pursue a PhD in France.
For the majority of the scientific doctorates, the student gets a 3-year employment contract for a gross amount of approximately EUR 1,700 / month (1300 EUR net).

More information

4.3.11 Germany: Funding and resources opportunities for graduate and doctoral students, postdocs and faculty and researchers

The German Center for Research and Innovation based in New York compiles all existing funding and resources opportunities for graduate and doctoral students, postdocs and faculty and researchers.

More information

4.3.12 Ireland: Research opportunities

The Irish Research Council (IRC) manages a suite of inter-linked research schemes, funding scholars at various career stages, from postgraduate study to senior research project-based awards. For early stage researchers these include the Gov. of Ireland Postgraduate scholarships and Gov. of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowships, which fund research at pre- and postdoctoral levels, and the Research Project Grants Scheme, which allows researchers and research teams to expand their activities into new research areas by way of stimulus project grants and knowledge transfer initiatives. The IRC manages and monitors all awards funded under these schemes on a bi-annual basis.

More information

4.3.13 Netherlands: EURAXESS Jobs portal: Overview of Dutch Fellowships and Grants

More information

4.3.14 US: National Science Foundation - Science Across Virtual Institutes (SAVI)

Science Across Virtual Institutes (SAVI) is a mechanism to facilitate collaboration among teams of NSF-supported U.S. scientists and engineers and their international partners who have complementary strengths and common interests and who wish to form virtual institutes to foster enhanced research collaboration; data sharing; networking; and technical exchanges of students, postdocs, and junior faculty across borders.

More information

See the list of the International Funding Opportunities at NSF:

http://www.nsf.gov/od/iai/ise/index.jsp
5 Jobs

5.1 EURAXESS Portal

There are currently about 7,400 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe, but also in other countries such as in the USA/Canada, and in all disciplines) accessible via the EURAXESS Jobs database.

Check out the latest jobs offered on the portal or search positions by keyword, research profile, country or field.

Online Jobs and Fellowships on the EURAXESS Links North America website. Research organisations (public and private) can upload their job vacancies located in Canada and the US. It is free of charge.

5.2 Other Research Career Sites

5.2.1 Canada

Career opportunities in Canada: National Research Council Canada and careers

5.2.2 Europe

Find A Postdoc: http://www.findapostdoc.com/
Find Scholarships in Europe: http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/
Find PhDs in Europe: http://www.phdportal.eu/
Career.edu: http://www.career.edu/index.php
Academic Jobs EU: http://www.academicjobseu.com
Euro Science Jobs: http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/
Careers with the European Union: European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO)
Careers with the European Union (EPSO), Non-permanent Posts
EuroBrussels: http://www.eurobrussels.com/

5.2.3 USA

AAAS support: Science careers from the Science journal
NSF guidance of funding opportunities for Graduate students
NSF guidance of funding opportunities for Postdoctoral fellows
Funding opportunities at researchusa.com
## 6 Events

### 6.1 Europe: Forthcoming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<th>Where</th>
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<th>Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MSCA: Bridging Business and Research</strong></td>
<td>5 January – 1 December 2015</td>
<td>5 different cities in Europe</td>
<td>MSCA</td>
<td><img src="http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess" alt="Link" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course: The Successful ERC Applicant</strong></td>
<td>13 January 2015</td>
<td>Copenhagen, Denmark</td>
<td>EuroCenter, Ministry of Higher Education and Science</td>
<td><img src="http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess" alt="Link" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fast Track to Innovation Pilot (2015-2016)</strong></td>
<td>9 January 2015</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EU-US Innovation Conference</strong></td>
<td>14-15 January 2015</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>BILAT USA 2.0</td>
<td><img src="http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess" alt="Link" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ELECspin 2015: “Intl Workshop on Organic and Graphene ELECTronics and SPINtronics”</strong></td>
<td>12-13 March 2015</td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
<td>Nanoscience Cooperative Research Center</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2nd HBP Education Workshop: “Future Medicine”</strong></td>
<td>15-18 March 2015</td>
<td>Lausanne, Switzerland</td>
<td>Human Brain Project</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPO Milano 2015</strong></td>
<td>1 May – 31 Oct 2015</td>
<td>Milan, Italy</td>
<td>Expo 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>65th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting</strong></td>
<td>28 June – 3 July 2015</td>
<td>Lindau, Germany</td>
<td>Lindau Institutions</td>
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### 6.2 North America: Forthcoming events

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<tr>
<td><strong>Information sessions on European Funding Opportunities for PhDs and Postdocs</strong></td>
<td>14-16 January 2015</td>
<td>University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, USA</td>
<td>EURAXESS Links NA and local partners</td>
<td><img src="http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess" alt="Link" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Destination Europe Conference</strong></td>
<td>12 February 2015</td>
<td>San Jose, CA, USA</td>
<td>European Commission, Member States</td>
<td><img src="http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess" alt="Link" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AAAS Annual Meeting</strong></td>
<td>12-16 February 2015</td>
<td>San Jose, CA, USA</td>
<td>American Association for the Advancement of Science</td>
<td><img src="http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess" alt="Link" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>European Student Conference 2015</strong></td>
<td>13-14 February 2015</td>
<td>Yale University, CT, USA</td>
<td>Erasmus+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Innovation Week + Summit</td>
<td>16-20 February 2015</td>
<td>Silicon Valley, San Jose, CA, USA</td>
<td>Global Innovation Summit Team</td>
<td>Link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destination Europe Conference</td>
<td>20 February 2015</td>
<td>Cambridge, MA, USA</td>
<td>European Commission, Member States</td>
<td>Link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT European Career Fair</td>
<td>21 February 2015</td>
<td>Cambridge, MA, USA</td>
<td>MIT European Club</td>
<td>Link</td>
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**About EURAXESS Links North America**

EURAXESS Links North America is a network of thousands of European and non-European researchers, scientists, and scholars throughout North America (USA and Canada). This multidisciplinary network includes members at all stages of their careers. It allows them to connect with each other and with Europe, ensuring that they are recognized as an important resource for European research whether they remain in North America or return to Europe.

For further information about EURAXESS Links North America, please visit: [http://northamerica.euraxess.org](http://northamerica.euraxess.org).

To sign up for membership in our network, and in the virtual SINAPSE community of researchers abroad, please go to our website and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links North America community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the [page](http://northamerica.euraxess.org). Membership is free!

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Editors: Viktoria BODNAROVA and Stephanie JANNIN, EURAXESS Links North America, Regional Representatives

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