

The European Research Council

Getting ready for the submission of an ERC proposal



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EURAXESS – European Research Day 2018, Ottawa, 5 November 2018

Outline



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- **Some basics on the ERC**
- **Submission process**
- **Evaluation**
- **Proposal preparation: Hints and tips**

ERC has a unique mission



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

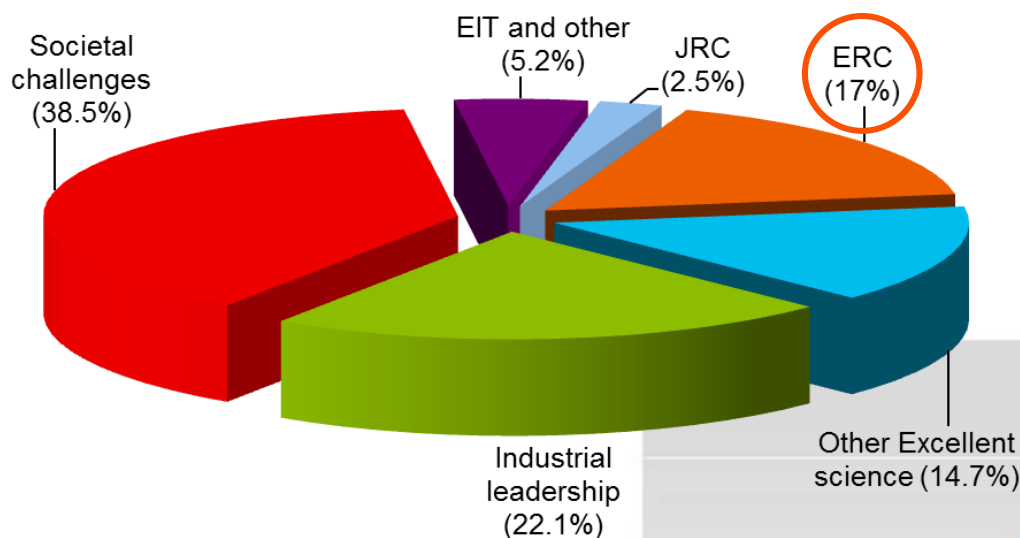
ERC is....

1. funding: it is part of H2020



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ERC Budget € 13 billion

For 2019, the budget is more than 2 billion euros, the highest ever since the beginning of the ERC.

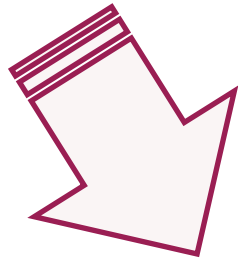


ERC is....

2. the Scientific Council

The ERC Scientific Council

- 22 prominent researchers appointed by the Commission
- Establishes overall scientific strategy
- Controls quality of operations and management
- Ensures communication with the scientific community



Panel Members

- Appointed by the Scientific Council
- Full independence in the evaluation and ranking of the proposals
- Appoint remote referees

ERC President



BOURGUIGNON

Jean-Pierre

Vice-President



BOCK Klaus

Vice-President



KONDOROSI Eva

Vice-President



STOKHOF Martin



BOVOLENTA

Paola



BUCKINGHAM

Margaret



CLARK

Christopher



CRONE Eveline



DONALD Athene



JAJSZCZYK

Andrzej



JUNGWIRTH

Tomas



KRAMER Michael



MEHLHORN Kurt



ROMANOWICZ

Barbara



STENSETH Nils

Chr.



SUPERTI-FURGA

Giulio



TAVERNARAKIS

Nektarios



THORNTON

Janet



VERNOS Isabelle



VEUGELERS

Reinhilde



WIEVIORKA

Michel



ZWIRNER Fabio

ERC is.....

3. the ERCEA

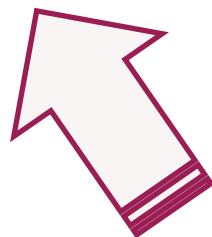


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The ERC Executive Agency

- Implements calls for proposals
- Organises peer review evaluation
- Establishes and manages grant agreements
- Administers scientific and financial aspects
- Carries out communications activities



ERC Scientific Officers

- Work closely with the panel members
- Manage all practical aspects of the evaluations
- Carry out scientific follow-up

ERC Basics



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INDIVIDUAL RESEARCHERS
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

LONG TERM
GRANTS

TO HIGH-RISK/HIGH-GAIN PIONEERING PROJECTS
IN ANY FIELD OF FRONTIER RESEARCH



Life Sciences



Physical Sciences and Engineering



Social Sciences and Humanities

What does ERC offer?

Creative Freedom of the Individual Grantee



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ERC offers selective and generous grants, independence, recognition & visibility

- Work on any research topic: **completely bottom-up**
- Gain **financial autonomy** for 5 years
- Negotiate the **best work conditions** with the host institution
- Attract **top team members and collaborators** (EU and non-EU)
- **Portability of grants**
- **Attract additional funding and gain recognition:** ERC is a quality label



Who can apply?

- **Excellent** Researchers
- **Any nationality, any age** or any current place of work
- In conjunction with a Host Institution based in Europe
EU or associated countries
- If granted, you need to spend at least 50% of your working time in the EU or associated countries



Contrary to what you may think.....

- ✓ ERC funds "frontier research", including applied research.
- ✓ The budget is distributed among the scientific panels as a function of demand.
- ✓ The panel descriptors do not represent ERC scientific priorities.
- ✓ The success rate is virtually flat across the eligibility window (StG, CoG).
- ✓ The Host Institution is not an evaluation criterion.



Particular emphasis on.....

Frontier of science, scholarship and engineering, i.e.

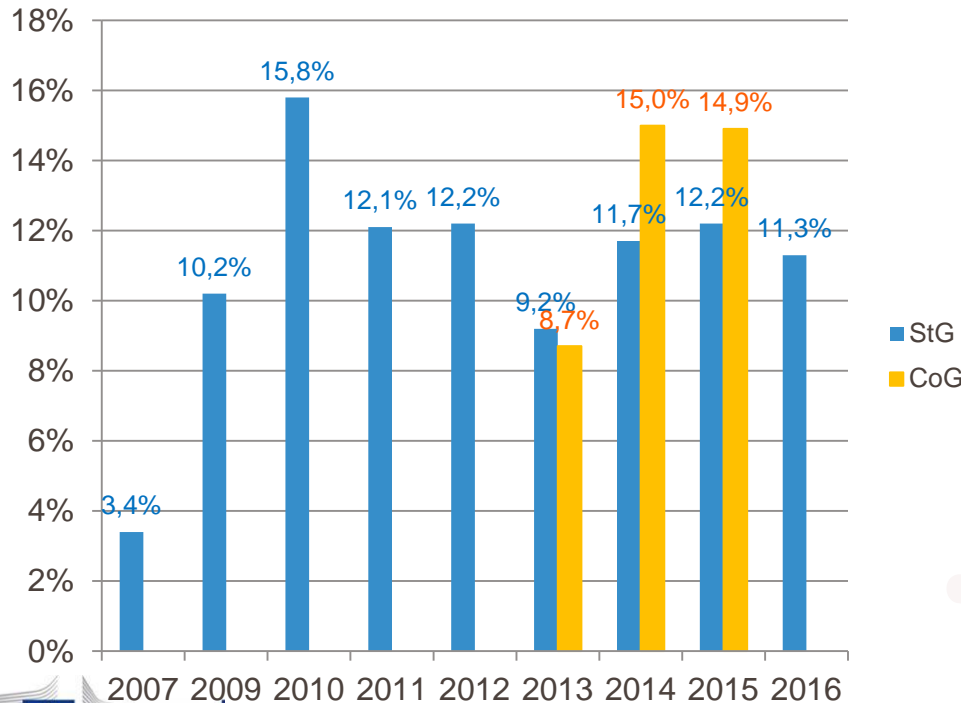
- ✓ Multi- or interdisciplinary proposals which cross boundaries between different fields of research, **or**
- ✓ Pioneering proposals addressing new and emerging fields of research, **or**
- ✓ Proposals introducing unconventional, innovative approaches and scientific inventions.



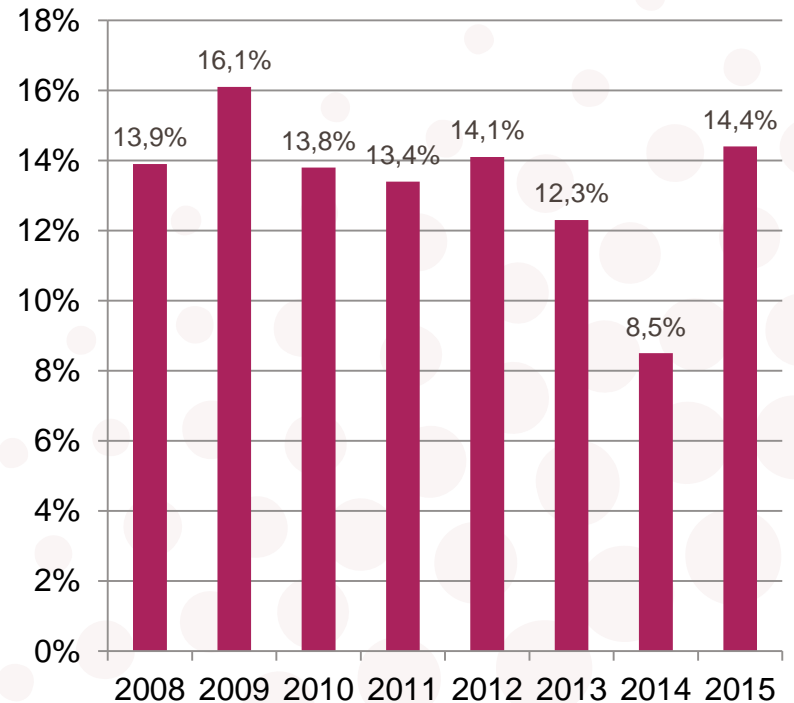
ERC schemes are highly competitive!

Average success rate 12%

Starting/Consolidator Grant



Advanced Grant



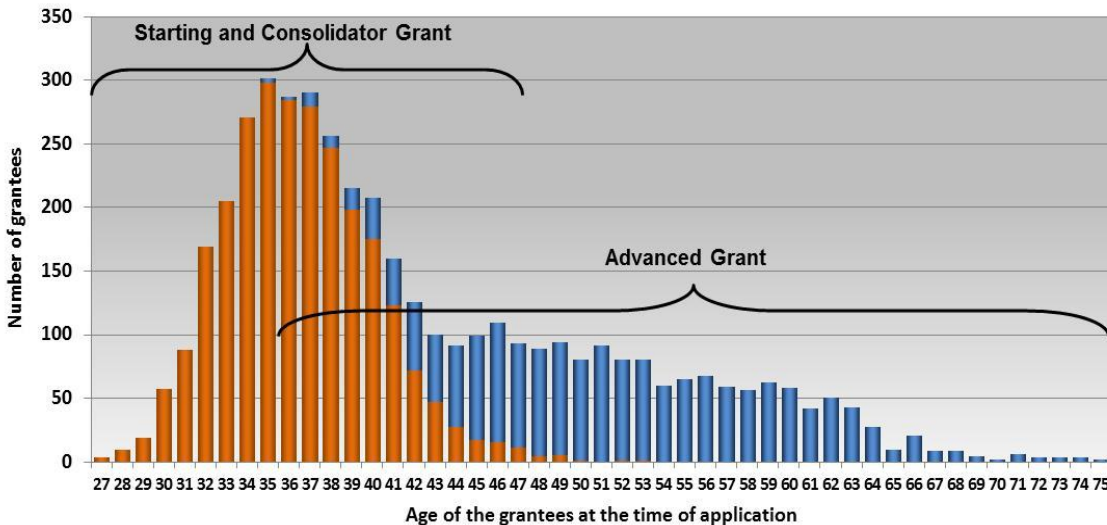
ERC achievements

Priority to young scientists



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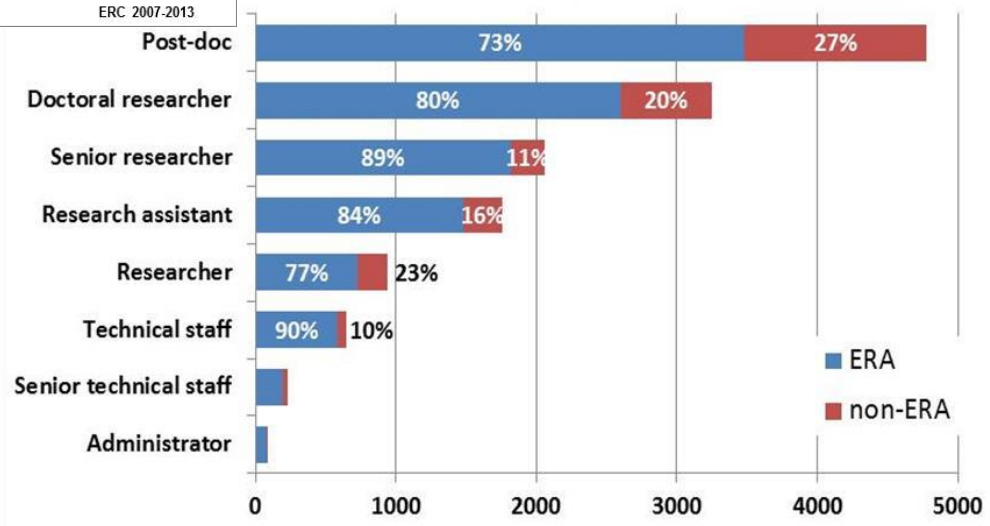
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+ 40 000 PhD and post-doc researchers working in ERC teams.

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

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



ERC Funding Schemes

Starting Grant

- 2-7 years after PhD
- up to €1.5M (+0.5M)
- for 5 years

Consolidator Grant

- 7-12 years after PhD
- up to €2M (+ 0.75M)
- for 5 years

Advanced Grant

- 10 year track-record of significant research achievements
- up to € 2.5M (+1M)
- for 5 years

Proof-of-Concept

for ERC grant holders only

- Supporting innovative potential of ideas from ERC projects
- up to €150,000
- for 1 year

Synergy Grant

Re-launched 2018

- 2-4 PIs at any career stage
- up to €10 M (+4M)
- for 6 years

Proposal submission

ERC Work Programme 2019 calendar



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ERC calls	Budget	Call Opening	Submission Deadline(s)
Starting Grants ERC-2019-StG	580 M€ (390 grants)	1 August 2018	17 October 2018
Synergy Grants ERC-2019-SyG	400 M€ (48 grants)	2 August 2018	8 November 2018
Consolidator Grants ERC-2019-CoG	602 M€ (314 grants)	24 October 2018	7 February 2019
Advanced Grants ERC-2019-AdG	391 M€ (166 grants)	21 May 2019	29 August 2019
Proof of Concept ERC-2019-PoC	25 M€ (167 grants)	6 October 2018	22 January 2019 25 April 2019 19 September 2019

ERC Starting and Consolidator Grants

The applicant's profile

“Am I competitive enough?”

- Potential for research independence
- Evidence of scientific maturity
- At least one (StG) /several (CoG) publications without participation of PhD supervisor

Condition StG: PhD at least 2 and up to 7 years before 1 January 2019 (for 2019 call, which has already closed)

Condition CoG: PhD over 7 and up to 12 years before 1 January 2019

Promising track-record of early achievements

- Significant publications
- Invited presentations in conferences
- Funding, patents, awards, prizes

All these need to be shown in your proposal that will include your CV and an early achievements track record.

Extensions of eligibility window



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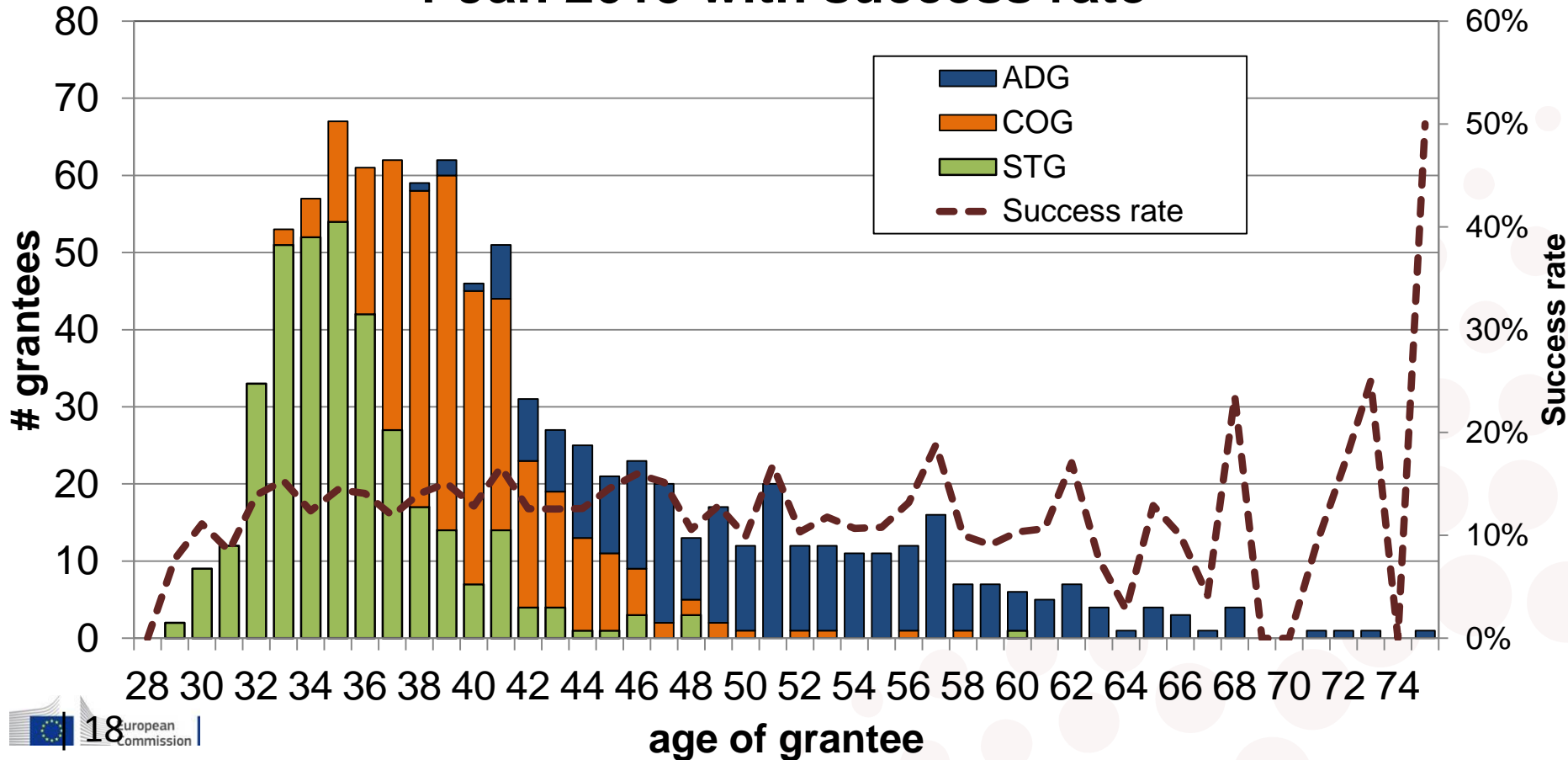
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Extensions of eligibility window possible for StG and CoG for documented cases of:

- **Maternity – 18 months per child (before or after PhD)**
- **Paternity – actual time taken off**
- **Military service**
- **Medical speciality training**
- **Caring for seriously ill family members**
- **No limit to the total extension**

Shall I apply now or wait another year?

STG COG ADG 2015 Age of grantees on 1 Jan 2015 with success rate



ERC Advanced Grants

The applicant's profile

“Am I competitive enough?”

- Exceptional leader in terms of originality and significance of your research
- Excellent track record and achievements during the last 10 years (this time window can be extended in case of eligible career breaks)

Substantial track-record of significant research achievements

- **as appropriate for the field**
- publications in peer-reviewed journals, monographs, invited presentations, funding, patents, awards, prizes
- Organisation of international conferences
- Major contributions to the early careers of excellent researchers
- Bibliometric data may be one of the proxies used (where appropriate) among many others

2019 Panel Structure

Each panel:
Panel Chair and 12-16 Panel Members

Life Sciences

- **LS1** Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics
- **LS2** Genetics, 'Omics', Bioinformatics and Systems Biology
- **LS3** Cellular and Developmental Biology
- **LS4** Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology
- **LS5** Neuroscience and Neural Disorders
- **LS6** Immunity and Infection
- **LS7** Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies, and Public Health
- **LS8** Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology
- **LS9** Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology and Molecular and Biosystems Engineering

Social Sciences and Humanities

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

Physical Sciences & Engineering

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

Evaluation

Peers



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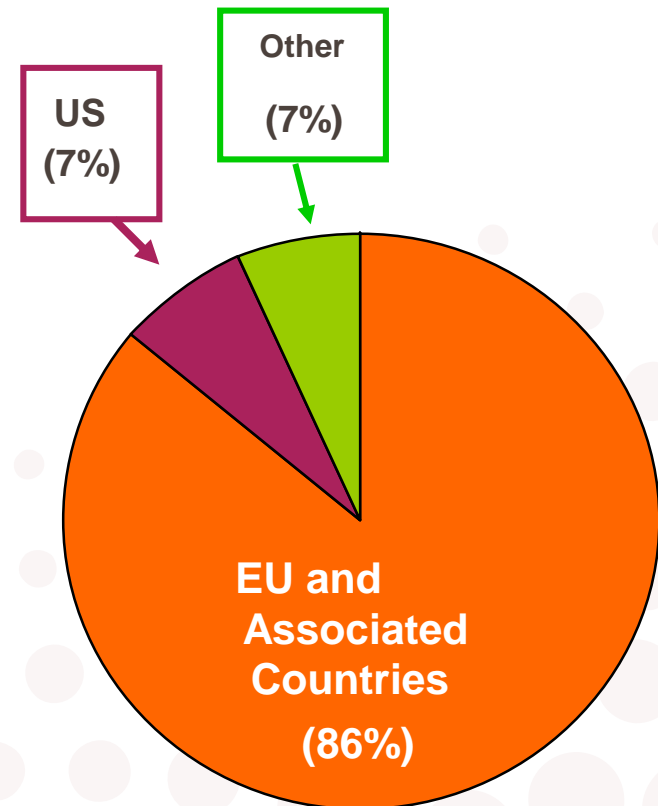
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➤ Panel members: typically 375 / call

- High-level scientists
- Recruited by ScC from all over the world: ~14% from outside Europe
- About 12-16 members plus a chair person

➤ Referees: typically 2000 / call

- Evaluate only a small number of proposals
- Similar to normal practise in peer-reviewed journals



Submission to Panels

- Proposals are submitted to a *Targeted Panel* (of PI's choice)
 - Can flag one “*Secondary Review Panel*”
- **Applicant chooses his/her panel**, this panel is “responsible” and takes ownership for the evaluation of the particular proposal
- Switching proposals between panels not possible unless clear mistake on part of applicant, or due to the necessary expertise being available in a different panel
- **But:** In case of cross-panel or cross-domain proposals, evaluation by members of other panels possible

Online Submission

Proposal structure



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Administrative forms (Part A)

- 1 – General information
- 2 – Administrative data of participating organisations
- 3 – Budget
- 4 – Ethics
- 5 – Call specific questions

Administrative forms

Annexes

Commitment of the host institution
PhD certificates, certificates on extension of eligibility, ethics issues etc

Part B1 (submitted as pdf) ***Evaluated in Step 1 & Step 2***

Text box - Cross-domain nature explanation

- a – Extended synopsis 5 pages
- b – Curriculum vitae 2 pages
- Appendix – Funding ID
- c - Track-record 2 pages

Part B2 (submitted as pdf)

NOT evaluated in Step 1 (Step 2 only)

- Scientific proposal 15 pages
- a – State-of-the-art and objectives
- b – Methodology
- c – Resources

→ Read the Information for Applicants

How are ERC research proposals evaluated?

Excellence is the sole evaluation criterion



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Evaluation of *excellence* at two levels:

- **Excellence of the Research Project**
 - ✓ Ground breaking nature
 - ✓ Potential impact
 - ✓ Scientific Approach
- **Excellence of the Principal Investigator**
 - ✓ Intellectual capacity
 - ✓ Creativity
 - ✓ Commitment

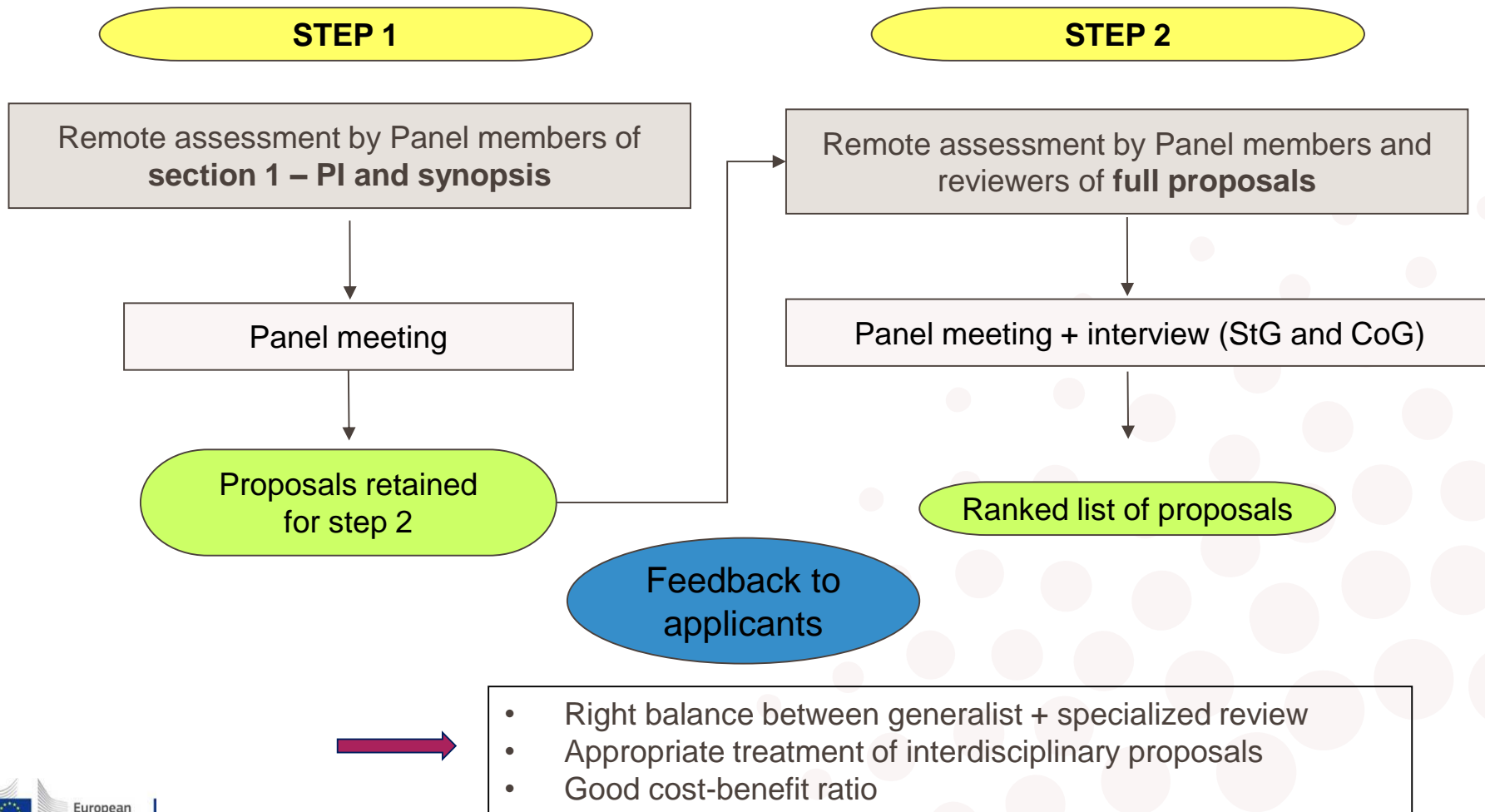
Evaluation

Review procedure (StG, CoG and AdG)



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ERC Synergy Grants

Background

- **2012-2013:** two pilot Synergy grant calls
 - ➔ 1.5 - 3% success rate: 24 projects funded
- **2016:** Following a detailed analysis of the funded SyG projects, the Scientific Council decided to re-launch the scheme
- **2018:** First Horizon 2020 Synergy call currently at the stage of proposal evaluation (budget 250 Million EUR)



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Synergy Grant – Objectives

- **Minimum two to maximum four Principal Investigators** and their teams
- To bring together **complementary skills, knowledge, and resources** in new ways, in order to **jointly** address **ambitious** research problems.
- **Transformative research** not only at the forefront of European science but also to become a benchmark **on a global scale**.
- Applicants Principal Investigators must demonstrate the synergies, complementarities and added value that could lead to **breakthroughs that would not be possible by the individual Principal Investigators working alone**.

Design of the Synergy call

- Budget for the 2019 call: 400 M€
 - To select 45-50 projects
- 2, 3 or 4 Principal Investigators
- **Including up to 1 PI based anywhere in the world**
- Next call deadline: 8 November 2018

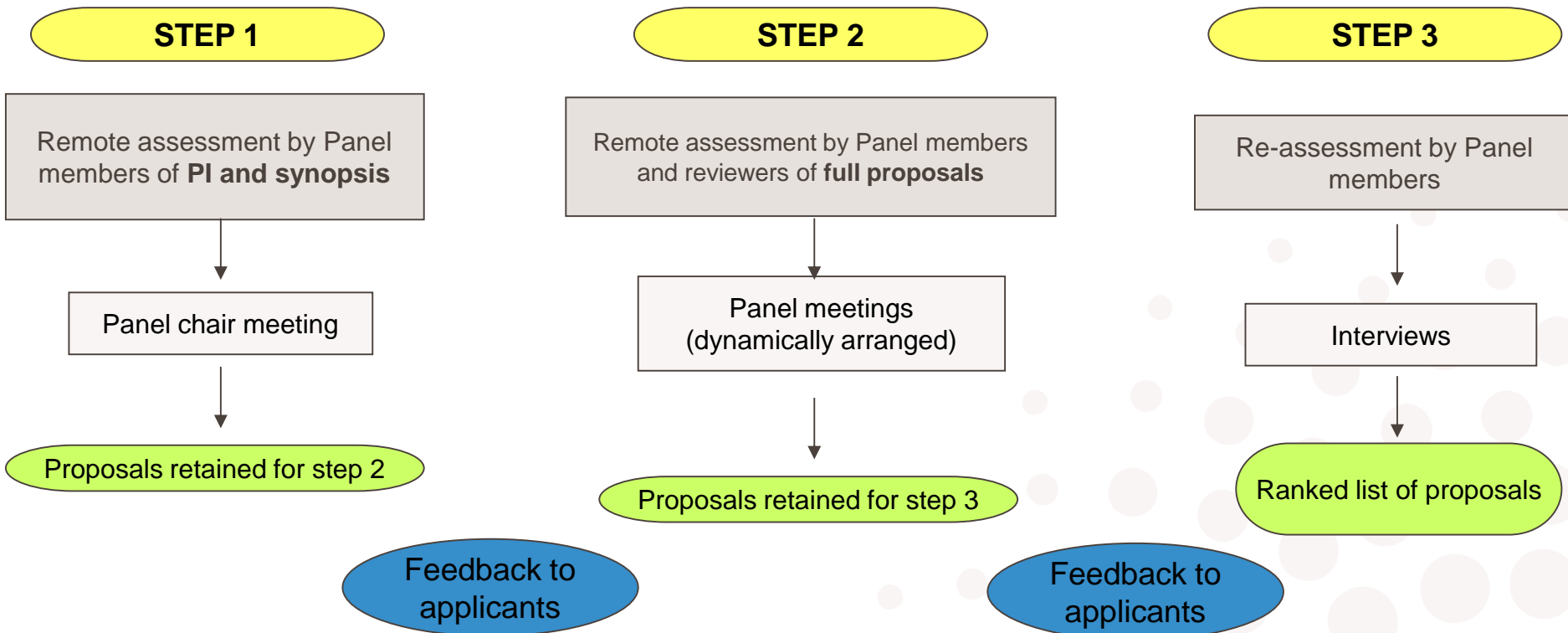
Evaluation

Review procedure (SyG)



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* Dynamically arranged



- Right balance between generalist + specialized review
- Appropriate treatment of interdisciplinary proposals
- Good cost-benefit ratio

Evaluation

Ranking and scoring in Step 1



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- In Step 1 proposals are ranked by the panels on the basis of the individual reviews and the panels' overall appreciation of their strengths and weaknesses.
- Proposals will be retained for Step 2 based on the ranked list and the determined budgetary cut-off level.
- Applicants will be informed on the score attained by their proposal:
 - **A:** is of sufficient quality to pass to Step 2 of the evaluation,.
 - **B:** is of high quality but not sufficient to pass to Step 2 of the evaluation.
 - **C:** is not of sufficient quality to pass to Step 2 of the evaluation.
- In addition, applicants will be told the ranking range of their proposal out of the proposals evaluated by the panel.

Evaluation

Ranking and scoring in Step 2 (and Step 3 for SyG)



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- In step 2 (and Step 3 for SyG) proposals are ranked by the panels on the basis of the individual reviews, the interview of the applicant (for StG, CoG and SyG) and an overall appreciation of their strengths and weaknesses.
- Proposals will be recommended for funding based on the ranked list and the funds available.
- Applicants will be informed on the score attained by their proposal:
 - **A:** fully meets the ERC's excellence criterion and is recommended for funding if sufficient funds are available.
 - **B:** meets some but not all elements of the ERC's excellence criterion and will not be funded.
- In addition, applicants will be told the ranking range of their proposal out of the proposals evaluated by the panel.

StG, CoG and AdG funding schemes:

- Those who receive B in Step 1 have to wait out one year to apply again to the StG, CoG or AdG calls
- Those who receive a C will have to wait out two years to apply again to the StG, CoG or AdG calls

SyG funding scheme:

- Those who receive B (Step 1 or Step 2) have to wait out one year to apply again to the SyG call
- Those who receive a C will have to wait out two years to apply again to the SyG call, and one year to apply to the StG, CoG or AdG calls

Scoring Scheme



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A score: within panel budget

➔ Proposals for immediate funding.

A score: outside panel budget

➔ One or more reserve list proposals may be funded. Unfunded applicants can resubmit next year.

B score: not funded

➔ Proposals rejected (Step 1 or 2). No resubmission next year if B awarded in step 1

C score: non fundable

➔ Proposals rejected (Step 1). No resubmission next 2 years

How to prepare and submit a successful ERC research proposal?



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- Have a **bright, original and exciting idea**
- Design a **research project** to implement the idea
- Get a letter of support from a **Host Institution** where the project is to be carried out (the HI must be located in the EU or any of the H2020 associated countries)
- Write your **research proposal**
- **Fully electronic/web based submission system**
- **Submit** your research proposal **before the deadline**



Preparing your proposal (1)

Hints and tips (Generalities)



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- **Register early**, get familiar with the system and templates and start filling in the forms
- A submitted proposal can be **revised until the call deadline** by submitting a new version and overwriting the previous one
- Follow the formatting rules and page limits.
- Download and proof-read the proposal before submitting.
- Make use of the **help tools and call documents** (Information for Applicants, Work Programme, Frequently asked questions) to prepare your proposal
- Talk to the National Contact Points and your Institution's grant office

Preparing your proposal (2): Decide whether to apply.



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SKILLS

- EXCELLENCE
- CREATIVITY
- AMBITION
- BOLDNESS



Preparing your proposal (3): If you apply for StG or CoG, make sure that you are eligible!



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Extensions of eligibility window possible for StG and CoG for documented cases of:

- Maternity – 18 months per child (before or after PhD)
- Paternity – actual time taken off
- Military service
- Medical specialty training
- Caring for seriously ill family members

No limit to the total extension

Preparing your proposal (4): Host Institution



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- You **can change** it during the project's life
- **Negotiate** with the HI (your position, equipment, administrative support, access to infrastructure, etc.)

Rumour 1: *The quality/fame of the HI is increasing my chances/scores.*

✗ NOT true: the HI is not an evaluation criterion!

Preparing your proposal (5): Choosing the Panel



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<https://erc.europa.eu/projects-and-results/erc-funded-projects>

ERC Funded Projects

Prizes and Awards

ERC Stories

Statistics

View projects by

Funding Scheme

Call Year

Domain/Panel

Country of Host Institution

Free text search



Clear all

ERC Funded Projects

The ERC operates according to an "investigator-driven", or "bottom-up", approach, allowing researchers to identify new opportunities in any field of research. Accordingly the portfolio of ERC funded projects spans a wide range of topics and research questions.

Since 2007, more than 5,000 projects have been selected to receive ERC funding throughout the EU Member States and the associated countries. The ERC has received over 50,000 project proposals for its calls.

You can use the menu on the left to search quickly and easy ERC funded projects.

Projects can be filtered according to: Funding scheme, Research area (Panel / Domain), Country of Host Institution and/or free keyword(s).

Information displayed is automatically updated through the information available on the **CORDIS** platform.

Please note that only funded projects, whose grant agreements have been signed, appear in this database. For this reason, the total number of projects in this database may differ from the figures provided in the statistics section which include also projects selected for funding whose grant agreements have not been signed yet.

For specific queries, please use this **contact form** and select the category 'Web'.

Preparing your proposal (6)

Check past panel members for the call



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ABOUT ERC

FUNDING

PROJECTS &
FIGURES

NEWS & EVENTS

MANAGING YOUR
PROJECT



Who can apply?

Researchers of any nationality with **2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD** extensions are possible (see [ERC Starting Grant 2019](#) and [ERC Starting Grant 2018](#) programme), a successful proposal



What proposals

- ▶ *Criteria*
Applications
The ERC's general
- ▶ *Location*
Research must be conducted at a Host Institution as a Host Institution or other HI located in one of the EU member states (see also eligibility of ERC legal entities) or **Associated Countries**
- ▶ *Host Institution*
Applications for an ERC grant must be submitted by a single Principal Investigator (PI) in conjunction with and on behalf of their Host Institution, called the applicant legal entity.

IMPORTANT: You are not allowed to contact panel members about the evaluation! Any such contact can lead to exclusion from the call.

CHOOSE YOUR PANEL

ERC peer review evaluation panels (2019 calls)

COMPOSITION OF EVALUATION PANELS

ERC Starting Grant 2019:
Panel Chairs
Panel Members

ERC Starting Grant 2018:
Panel Chairs
Panel Members

Click [here](#) to check Panel Chairs and Panel Members from previous calls

RESULTS OF PREVIOUS

Preparing your proposal (7): Choosing the descriptors



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- Descriptors and free keywords may influence:
 - Evaluation Panel
 - **Panel members**
 - Whether a cross-panel evaluation is necessary

Rumour : *The more cross-panel descriptors I indicate, the higher the funding chances, since I emphasize like this the interdisciplinarity of my proposal.*

- ✗ **NOT true**: even though these are used to allocate proposals to Panel Members, once the proposals are allocated, the Panel Members do not see the keywords and descriptors used.

Preparing your proposal (8): Part B1: the research project



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- Is my project new, **innovative**, bringing new solutions/theories?
- Does it promise to go **substantially beyond the state of the art?** – no incremental research. **Think big!**
- Know your competitors – what is the **state of play** and why is your idea and scientific approach outstanding?
- Only the extended Synopsis is read at Step 1: **concise and clear presentation** is crucial (evaluators are not necessarily all experts in the field)
- How can I **prove/support** my case? Have I proven the project's **feasibility?**
Are my goals **realistic?**
- What's the **risk?**

Preparing your proposal (8): Part B1: the principal investigator



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- Why am I the **best/only person** to carry it out? Know your competitors
- Am I able to work **independently**, and to manage a 5-year project with a substantial budget?
- Am I **competitive**?
- Have I shown my **scientific leadership** in my CV?

Rumour : *One needs publications in Nature/Science/High Impact Factor journals to succeed.*

✗NOT true

Preparing your proposal (9): Part B2



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In Step 2, both part B1 and B2 are read by Panel Members and specialists around the world (specialised external referees) so in Part B2:

- Do not repeat the synopsis, provide sufficient details on your methodology and work plan
- Make sure that the quantitative and qualitative differences to the state of the art are clear and referenced - show you did your homework.
- Provide alternative strategies to mitigate risks
- Explain **involvement of team members**
- Justify requested **resources** – **explain your budget properly**

Preparing your proposal (10): Proposal budget considerations



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- Budget analysis carried out in Step 2 evaluation (meeting)
- Panels have responsibility to ensure that resources requested are reasonable and well justified
- Budget cuts need to be justified on a proposal by proposal basis (no across-the-board cuts)
- Panels to recommend a final maximum budget based on the resources allocated/ removed
- Panels do not “micro-manage” project finances
- Awards made on a “take-it-or-leave-it” basis: no negotiations

Questions to ask yourself as an applicant



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- Am I internationally competitive as a researcher at my career stage and in my discipline?
- Am I able to work independently, and to manage a 5-year project with a substantial budget?
- Why is my proposed project important?
- Does it promise to go substantially beyond the state of the art?
- Why am I the best/only person to carry it out?
- Is it timely? (Why wasn't it done in the past? Is it feasible now?)
- What's the risk? Is it justified by a substantial potential gain? Do I have a plan for managing the risk?

Typical reasons for rejection

Principal investigator

- Insufficient track-record
- Insufficient (potential for) independence
- Insufficient experience in leading projects

Proposed project

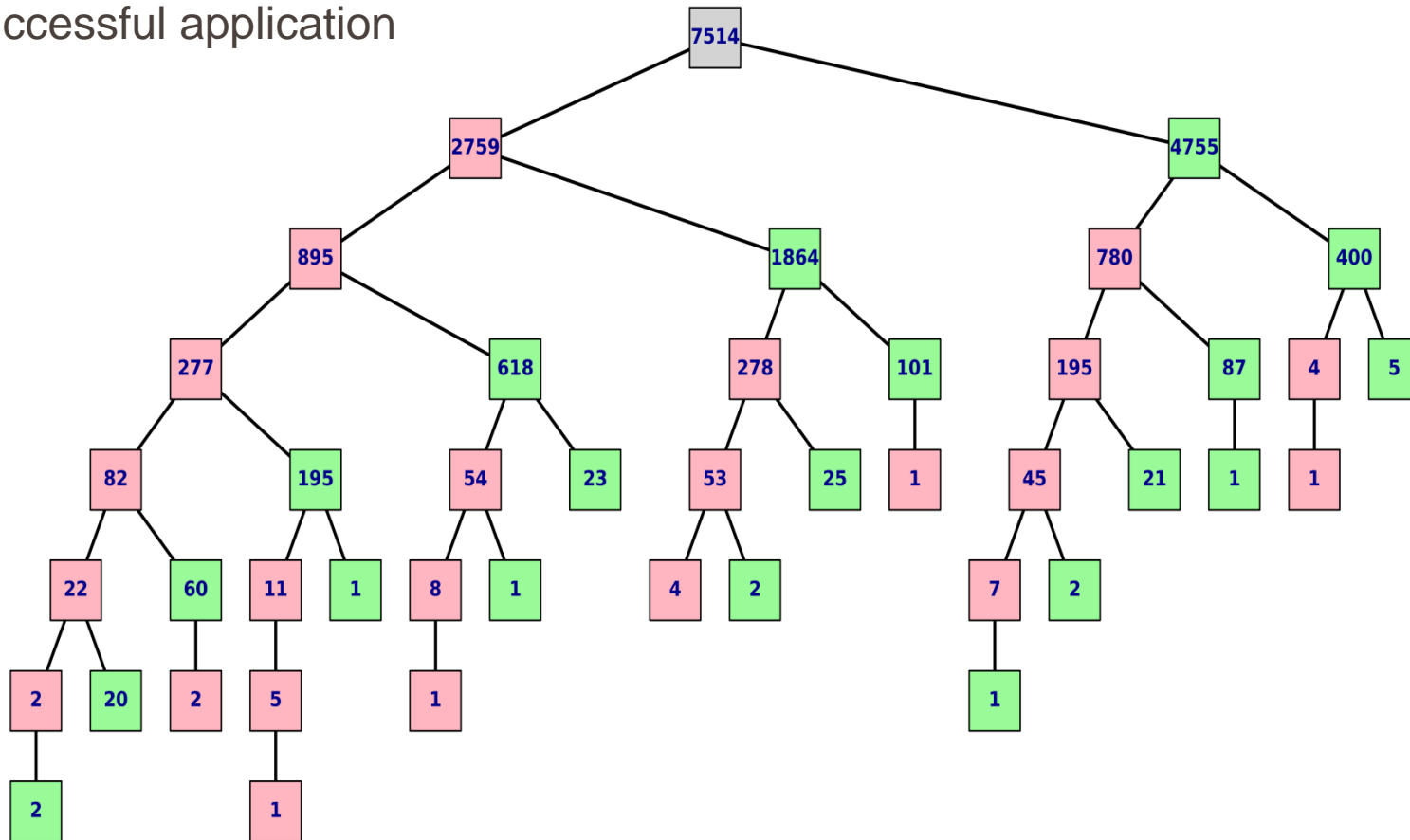
- Scope: Too narrow \leftrightarrow too broad/unfocussed
- Incremental research
- Work plan not detailed enough/unclear
- Insufficient risk management

If you're unsuccessful the first time... ERC grantees 2007-2017 Applications before and after funding



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- Unsuccessful application
- Successful application



Nobel Prize to ERC grantees



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The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 was awarded jointly to Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Sir J. Fraser Stoddart and Bernard L. Feringa "for the design and synthesis of molecular machines".



Bernard Feringa
Nobel 2016

ERC Grantee
AdG 2008

ERC Grantee
AdG 2015



Jean Tirole
Nobel 2014

ERC Grantee
AdG 2009

The Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 2014 was awarded to Jean Tirole "for his analysis of market power and regulation".



May-Britt Moser
Nobel 2014

ERC Grantee
AdG 2010



Edvard Moser
Nobel 2014

ERC Grantee
AdG 2008

ERC Grantee
AdG 2013



Serge Haroche
Nobel 2012

ERC Grantee
AdG 2009



Konstantin Novoselov
Nobel 2010

ERC Grantee
StG 2007

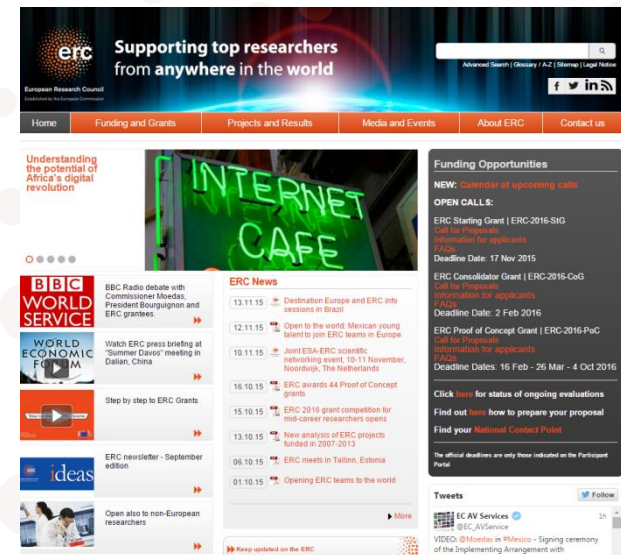
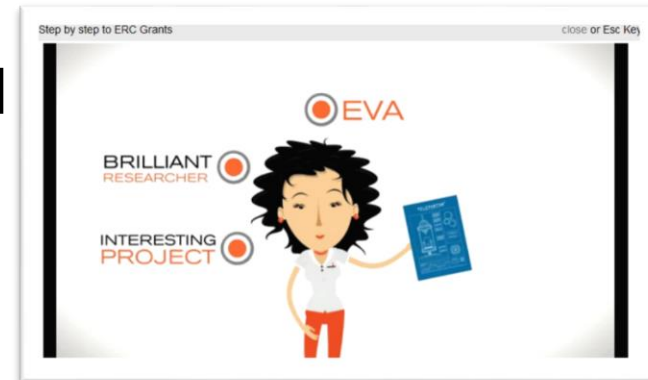
ERC Grantee
SyG 2012

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2014 was awarded to May-Britt Moser and Edvard Moser, together with John O'Keefe, "for their discoveries of cells that constitute a positioning system in the brain".

- **2** other ERC grantees received the Nobel prize in **2010** and **2012**
- Other **7** ERC grantees were already Nobel laureates at the moment they received the ERC grant

Some useful tools and links

- Read **Information for Applicants** and **Work Programme**
- View the **step-by-step video** Introduction to application process, including tips & tricks for the interview
<https://vimeo.com/94179654>
- Consult **ERC website** for latest funding opportunities, view ERC funded projects



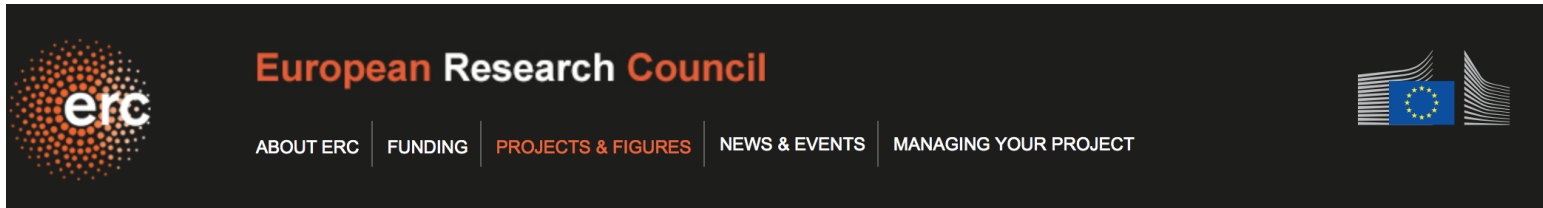
Preparing an application

Check the already Funded Projects



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Home » Projects & figures » ERC Funded Projects

ERC FUNDED PROJECTS

The ERC operates according to a "curiosity-driven", or "bottom-up", approach, allowing researchers to identify new opportunities in any field of research. Accordingly the portfolio ERC funded projects spans a wide range of topics and research questions.

Since 2007, more than 9,000 projects have been selected to receive ERC funding throughout the EU Member States and the associated countries.

Use the search facility to quickly and easily find examples of ERC funded projects.

HOW CAN YOU SEARCH?

Projects can be filtered according to funding scheme, call year, panel and/or country of host institution.

SEARCH

Apply

FUNDING SCHEME

- Starting Grant (StG) (3840)
- Consolidator Grant (CoG) (1562)
- Advanced Grant (AdG) (2413)
- Proof of Concept (PoC) (735)

Menu allows searching by Funding Scheme, Research Area, Panel/Domain Country of Host Institution etc.

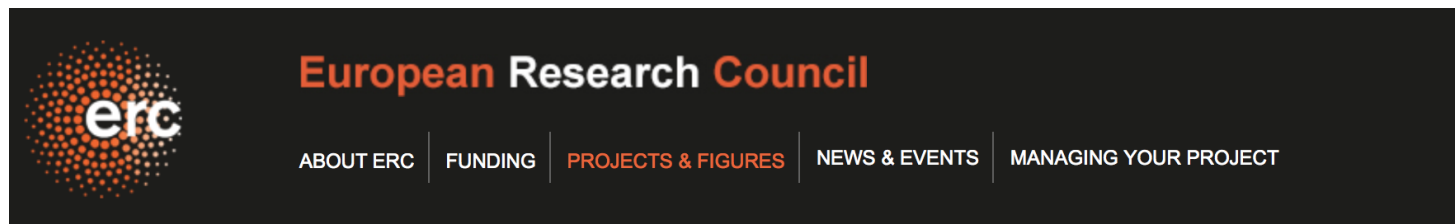
Preparing an application

Check the statistics on granted projects and on submissions



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Home » Projects & figures » Statistics

STATISTICS

Country	2007	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Austria	5	7	15	16	9	12	14	10	16	14	9
Belgium	10	14	14	20	24	16	12	11	21	12	16
Bulgaria	1										
Croatia						1					
Cyprus	2		1			1				1	
Czech Republic	1		1	1		1	1	3	1	2	5
Denmark	3	7	6	10	13	2	13	8	3	7	17
Estonia		1		1						1	1

- Granted projects
- Evaluated projects

FUNDING SCHEME

- Starting Grant (S)
- Consolidator Grant
- Advanced Grant
- Proof of Concept
- Synergy Grants

CALL YEAR

Menu allows searching by Funding Scheme, Call year, Domain/Panel and Grantees by Country of Host Institution.



The ERC international implementing agreements: Opportunities for researchers from outside Europe to collaborate with an ERC PI



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Opportunities for:

- **Canada Research Chair holders or Banting PostDoc Fellows (Canada)**
- **NSF CAREER Awardees or NSF Postdoc Fellows (USA)**
- **MSIP Career Awardees or NRF Young Researchers (Korea)**
- **CONICET Investigator with a PICT or PIP grant (Argentina)**
- **JSPS Fellows (Japan)**. NEW: Similar agreement with JST
- **NSFC Grant holders (China)**
- **NRF Career Advancement or Postdoctoral Fellows (South Africa)**
- **CONACYT Research Fellows or Postdoc Fellows (Mexico)**
- **PostDoc grantees of FAPs, CAPES, CNPq (Brasil)**
- **Early-Career Researchers, National PostDoc Fellows or Doctoral Candidates funded by SERB (India)**

The ERC: Some take-home messages



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➤ The ERC's strategy is made **BY** scientists **FOR** scientists

The ERC Scientific Council

- 22 prominent researchers
- Appointed by the Commission
- Establishes overall scientific strategy
- Controls quality of operations and management
- Ensures communication with the scientific community



The ERC: Some take-home messages



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The ERC:

- Is implementing lean procedures for proposal evaluation and grant management
- To keep away from you administrative hassle
- To let you do what you do best:

Excellent Research!

The ERC: Some take-home messages



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ERC Grants can make all the difference:

Long-term grants

Generous funding

Available for high-risk/high-gain projects

After 11 Years, a Success Story



Over **8,000**
top researchers funded since
the ERC's creation in 2007



Over **110,000**
articles from ERC projects published
in prestigious scientific journals



Over **60,000**
researchers and other professionals
employed in ERC research teams



748 research institutions
hosting ERC grantees – universities,
public or private research centres in
the EU or associated countries



€ 13 billion

ERC budget for 2014-2020 under
Horizon 2020



74
nationalities of
grant holders

The European Research Council



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- More information: erc.europa.eu
or watch: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/154715819>
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Thank you!