HORIZON EUROPE
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Postdoctoral Fellowships
2024 MSCA-PF Call
26/06/2024

Tuğba ARSLAN KANTARCIOĞLU
THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF TÜRKİYE (TÜBİTAK)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions National Expert and National Contact Point for Türkiye
EURAXESS National Coordinator
Where to find MSCA in Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe

- Horizon Europe budget: **95.5 billion €** → MSCA budget: **6.6 billion €**
- **Excellent Science** (Pillar 1): reinforcing and extending the excellence of the EU’s science base
Pillar I: Excellent Science

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

European Research Council
Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams
€16 billion

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions
Equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills through mobility and training
€6.6 billion

Research Infrastructures
Integrated and interconnected world-class research infrastructures
€2.4 billion

Link for MSCA
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

The MSCA have 5 main actions:

**Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- support researchers’ careers and foster excellence in research and innovation. Researchers holding a PhD can carry out their research activities, acquire new skills and develop their careers abroad, whilst developing competences in non-academic sectors and working within interdisciplinary teams.

**Staff Exchanges**
- encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.

**Doctoral Networks**
- implement doctoral programmes (including joint doctorates and industrial doctorates) by international internships of organisations from different sectors. They train highly-skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

**MSCA and Citizens**
- brings research and researchers closer to children, families and the public at large through the European Researchers’ Night – the annual research communication and promotion event taking place at the end of September across EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

**COFUND**
- co-finances regional, national and international doctoral and postdoctoral programmes for researchers’ training and career development. The COFUND action spreads MSCA’s best practices by setting high standards and excellent working conditions, and boosts training and international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.

[Link for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2024]
### Main Aim

The MSCA strongly contribute to excellent research, boosting jobs, growth and investment by equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills and providing them with an international as well as inter-sectoral exposure (including through academia-business collaboration), to fill the top positions of tomorrow.

### Budget

- **€ 6.6 Billion** (7% of total HE budget)

### Deadlines

- **PF:** 23 April 2024 – 11 Sept. 2024
- **DN:** 29 May 2024 - 27 Nov. 2024
- **SE:** 19 Sept. 2024 – 05 Feb. 2025
- **COFUND:** 23 Apr. 2024 – 26 Sept. 2024
- **Citizens:** 17 June 2025 – 22 Oct. 2025

### National Contact Points for Türkiye

- Tuğba ARSLAN KANTARCIOĞLU, PhD
- Burcu Bahar Göğüş Doğan, PhD
- Şeyma SAYIMLAR (ncpmobility@tubitak.gov.tr)

### 5 Different Actions

**Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- Individual application with a supervisor and host institution for post-doctoral research
- Max. 8 years research experience after PhD (new rule)
- Research opportunity in Europe and in the world
- Career development opportunity with mobility rule
- Resubmission is not possible if stayed under threshold (70 over 100)

**Doctoral Networks**
- At least 3 different partners from 3 different countries
- At least 1 EU MS/AC participation in the consortium
- Recruitment of PhD Fellows with EU funding
- Creation of Standart / Joint / Industry Doctorate Programmes
- Resubmission is not possible if stayed under 80 over 100 as score

**Staff Exchanges**
- At least 3 different partners from 3 different countries
- Possibility to collaborate with non-European Countries
- Research, Technical, Administrative Staff Exchanges among partners with secondment method
- Top-up to the salary of the staff (no recruitment)

**COFUND**
- Proposals for new or existing doctoral or postdoctoral programmes with an impact on the enhancement of human resources in R&I at regional, national or international level

**MSCA and Citizens**
- Aims to bring research and researchers closer to the public at large, to increase awareness of research and innovation activities and to boost public recognition of science and research education.
- 1 day event in September in every funded organisation
### MSCA: Key figures 2014-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Researchers, including PhD candidates</td>
<td>+65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researchers from outside EU</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under Horizon 2020</td>
<td>6.2 billion €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral programmes</td>
<td>+1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies supported</td>
<td>+4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female researchers</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Link for MSCA Work Programme](#) (2023 – 2025 version)
MSCA: Key policies

- Researchers’ training, skills & career development (all career stages)
- Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)
- International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility
- Attractive working & employment conditions
- Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes
- Strong collaboration with industry & SMEs
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

Budget (2024): €417.18mn (€354.60mn European, €62.58mn Global)
Call deadline: 11 September 2024

Objective

- “Enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD, wishing to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.”

- **Monobeneficiary**: One researcher, one host organization
- **Two types**: European and Global Fellowships
- Host organization must be in EU or Horizon Europe Associated Country
- Open to all research domains, including Euratom
- Open to “excellent researchers of any nationality” (restrictions for GF and Euratom)

* As of 1 January 2024, UK became an Associated Country to Horizon Europe
European vs Global Fellowships

**European Fellowships**
- EU MS/AC
- Third Country (India)
- **Duration:** 12-24m
- + Non-Academic Placement Max. 6m

**Global Fellowships**
- EU MS/AC
- EU MS/AC
- Third Country (India)
- **Outgoing phase:** 12–24m
- **Duration:** 24-36m
- Mobility must start at the beginning (excluding secondment);
- No more than 12 months at the return phase can be asked.
EU Member States / HE Associated Countries

EU Member State (MS): 27 countries/ overseas territories

Associated Country (AC): Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Morocco, United Kingdom.

*Morocco, *Canada (still ongoing)

Note: Switzerland is not an associated country

Third Country (TC): any other country (n.b. Annex A list of countries that can receive funding)
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Popularity of MSCA-IF/PF
Key points about MSCA-PF

- Postdoctoral researchers only [ELIGIBILITY]
- Max. 8 years FTE postdoctoral research experience [ELIGIBILITY]
- Researcher mobility scheme [ELIGIBILITY]
- Training and career development through research
- Non-Academic Placements possible (up to 6m at end of project)
- Secondments encouraged (worldwide, up to 1/3 of project duration)
- 12-24m (EF) or 24-36m (GF) + Non-Academic Placement (max. 6m)
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Eligibility Criteria

Postdoctoral Researchers only
• Must be "in possession of a doctoral degree" before call deadline
• If not yet awarded, must be “unconditional” defence before call deadline

Max. 8 years FTE postdoctoral research experience
• Measured from date of PhD award (time outside research not counted)

Researcher Mobility
• Must not have resided or carried out their main activity in country of the beneficiary (EF) or the host for the outgoing phase (GF) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline
• For GF, must be nationals or “long-term residents” of EU/AC (Long term residence is defined as five consecutive years of legal and continuous residence within that EU/AC countries at some point in the past)
Secondments & Non-Academic Placements

- **Secondments**: possible worldwide, up to 1/3 of the project duration (i.e. max 8m for a 24m project); both academic and non-academic institutions
- Secondments can be divided into several shorter periods
- Inter-sectoral secondments encouraged

- **Non-Academic Placement**: up to 6m at the end of the project in a **MS or AC** non-academic institution
- Not a big take-up so far... (ca. 6% of proposals)
Example 1

European Fellowship

• A researcher from any nationality awarded a PhD in 2017 in India, remains resident there. Applies for a European Fellowship in the field of nanotechnology together with a host institution in Spain.

• **ELIGIBLE?** Awarded a PhD before the Call deadline; less than 8 years since award of PhD; has not resided in Spain for more than 12 months in previous 3 years.
Example 2

**Global Fellowship**

- Any researcher living in Spain for previous 3 years, PhD in 2023, applies for a Global Fellowship in the field of thermodynamics with a host in Spain, and outgoing phase in India.

- **Eligible?** Awarded a PhD before the call deadline; less than 8 years since award of PhD; not more than 12 months in India in previous 3 years...but EU / AC national or “long-term resident” in EU/AC?
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

The MSCA-PF Evaluation

- **Large-Scale Evaluation**
  Due to large number of proposals

- **Standard Peer-Review**
  ≥ 3 experts per proposal

- **Bottom-up Programme**
  Proposals and Experts from all disciplines

- **Expert Balance**
  of experience, nationality, gender, age, sector, etc.

- **8 Scientific Panels**
  CHE, ECO, ENG, ENV, LIF, MAT, PHY, SOC

- **Single-Stage Evaluation**

**Call deadline to funding decision:**
5 months (+ 3 months to GA signature)
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Evaluation Process

Proposal

Expert 1
Individual Evaluation Report

Expert 2
Individual Evaluation Report

Expert 3
Individual Evaluation Report

Consensus Discussions

Consensus Report / Evaluation Summary Report

ALLOCATION OF PROPOSALS TO EXPERTS?
- DESCRIPTORS AND KEYWORDS
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Proposal Ranking

• Proposals ranked – and funding allocated - **by Scientific Panel**
  (NB. separate ranking for European and Global Fellowships)

• **Seal of Excellence:** awarded to proposals which score ≥ 85%

• **New in HORIZON EUROPE:** Resubmission restriction for proposals with same researcher and same host scoring <70% in previous evaluation

• **Evaluation Review procedure**
### Evaluation Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellence</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Quality and efficiency of the implementation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality and pertinence of the project’s research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)</td>
<td>Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of the researcher and contribution to his/her skills development</td>
<td>Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)</td>
<td>Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities</td>
<td>Quality and capacity of the host institutions and participating organisations, including hosting arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the supervision, training and of the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host</td>
<td>The magnitude and importance of the project’s contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality and appropriateness of the researcher’s professional experience, competences and skills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See MSCA Work Programme 2023-2025 (C(2024) 2371 of 17 April 2024)
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Proposal Submission

Part A
(Application Forms)

Part B
(Technical Description - PDF)
Part A (Application Forms)

- Structured data entered into the IT system
- **Acronym and Title** for the project (*NB title is not the same as acronym*)
- Select the **Scientific Area** (i.e. panel) which is the “best fit”
- **Up to 5 “Descriptors”** which best characterise the content of the proposal, in descending order of relevance
- First 3 descriptors linked to selected panel, others unrestricted
- Free keywords
- **Abstract:** maximum 2,000 characters
- **Resubmission?**
Part A

**Researcher Information**, including:
- PhD award date (or date of successful defence)
- If PhD more than 8 years ago, complete table for extensions
- Countries of residence for past 5 years

**Beneficiary Information**, including:
- Participant Information Code (PIC)
- Outgoing host (for GF)
- Non-Academic Placement host (if applicable)
Proposal Part B1

Part B of the Proposal is comprised of two documents (Part B1 and Part B2), uploaded as separate PDF files.

Part B1

• Technical description of the project
• Limit of 10 pages (excess pages will not be visible to evaluators)
• Minimum font size 11 points*, with standard spacing
• Use the Part B template available on the MSCA-PF Call page and structure your proposal accordingly

* including tables
Proposal Part B2

**Part B2** (no formal page limit)
- CV of the Researcher (ca. 5 pages)
- Capacity of the Participating Organisations (max. 1 page per organisation, ½ page for associated partners)
- Additional ethics and security information (if needed)
- Environmental considerations in light of the [MSCA Green Charter](#) (½ page)
- Letter of Commitment (for Global Fellowships, outgoing phase)

See [Part B template](#) on MSCA-PF call page for more information
## Funding levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships</th>
<th>Contributions for the recruited researcher</th>
<th>Institutional unit contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2024-2025</td>
<td>Per person-month</td>
<td>Per person month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living Allowance</td>
<td>Research, training and networking contribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mobility Allowance</td>
<td>Management and indirect contribution</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family Allowance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Special needs allowance (if applicable)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per person-month</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€5,990†*</td>
<td>€1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€710*</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€660</td>
<td>€650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Applicable only for the 2024 call onwards.
† Living Allowance corrected by a country correction coefficient.
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Common Errors

- Missing the Call deadline
- Not respecting eligibility requirements (i.e. PhD, mobility or max 8 years research experience)
- Exceeding the page limits
- Missing Letter of Commitment (for Global Fellowships)
- Confusing Secondments and Non-Academic Placements
- Requesting an ineligible Non-Academic Placement or secondment
- Using too small font
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Call Planning

**Call Opening:** 23 April 2024
**Call Deadline:** 11 Sept 2024
**Evaluation Period:** Oct 2024 – Jan 2025
**Launch Grant Preparation:** Feb 2025
**Project Starting Dates:** Apr 2025 - Sept 2026

*Slides taken from REA presentation delivered at “Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions 2024 Calls (online) Conference” on 13 May 2024, organized by MSCA Türkiye NCPs.*
ERA Fellowships (widening activities)

- No separate application or evaluation – integral part of the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call application form;
- For specific countries with specific R&I performance – available in Work Programme;
- Must be submitted by a host institution from a ‘Widening’ country;
- Only for EFs, GFs don’t qualify;
- Only proposals scoring over 70% in the PF call will be considered which failed to reach an adequate place in the ranking to be funded under that call;
- Timing aligned with PF call.

**NOTE:** “call specific question” to be completed in the PF submission for EF to indicate willingness to participate in this call (only if host organisation is a qualifying country)

- Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and all Associated Countries with equivalent characteristics in terms of R&I performance (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo 2, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Morocco, Tunisia, Ukraine, Faroe Islands) and the Outermost Regions (defined in Art. 249 TFEU): Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Réunion, Martinique, Mayotte and Saint Martin (France).
MSCA National Contact Points Around the World

TÜRKİYE - TÜBİTAK

EU Framework Programmes National Coordination Office

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EUROPE and the WORLD

MSCA-NET Network

National Contact Points for Horizon Europe

Tallis Mobility is the main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe. The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) is a key element of the Horizon Europe's single window for research and innovation.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp

MSCA-NET PROJECT

All MSCA National Contact Points around the world are collaborating thanks to this project.

MSCA-NET has received funding from the European Union’s Research and Innovation Program Horizon Europe under the grant agreement No 101054477
Handbooks

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)
MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN)
MSCA Staff Exchanges (SE)
MSCA COFUND

Scientific Community

MSA NCPs

MSCA Handbooks

The MSCA-NET project will prepare a handbook for each MSCA calls. These handbooks will provide you with up-to-date tips and tricks on how to ace the MSCA proposals.

PF 2022 Handbook
DN 2022 Handbook

Link for project website
Some more links..

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Website
https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en

Research Enquiry Service
https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service_en

National Contact Points
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp

Funding and Tenders Portal (applications)
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen
EURAXESS Services
JOBS and FUNDING Opportunities

EURAXESS Worldwide in numbers

Currently, nearly 64,000 researchers and multipliers are regularly informed by the EURAXESS Worldwide initiative.

Since 2013, EURAXESS Worldwide has:

- Organised over 440 events with over 55,500 participants.
- The country/hub portals overall were visited by nearly 2 million visitors.
- Published over 340 newsletters in all EURAXESS Worldwide target countries.
- Collected more than 50,000 likes and followers via social media (incl. LinkedIn: join our global EURAXESS Worldwide group! https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4990889/).
EURAXESS figures at Worldwide Level.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY

9947
JOB OFFERS
FIND JOBS ›

THERE ARE CURRENTLY

629
EURAXESS CENTRES
FIND PERSONALISED ASSISTANCE ›

THESE TOP 5 RESEARCH FIELDS ARE CURRENTLY TRENDING WITHIN THE NETWORK

- ENGINEERING
- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- PHYSICS
- CHEMISTRY
- BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
# EURAXESS - What to find?

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<th>Jobs &amp; Funding</th>
<th>Career Development</th>
<th>Information &amp; Assistance</th>
<th>EURAXESS Worldwide</th>
<th>My EURAXESS</th>
<th>Useful Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Search for Jobs</td>
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<td>Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Jobs</td>
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<td>Leaving Europe</td>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
<td>Follow us</td>
<td>Accessibility Statement</td>
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<td>Search for Hosting</td>
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<td>Find Personalised Assistance</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charter &amp; Code for Researchers</td>
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<td>Pensions</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>FAQs</td>
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<td>Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R)</td>
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<td>Legal Information</td>
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<td>Korea</td>
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<td>Policy Library</td>
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<td>Latin America &amp; Caribbean States</td>
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<td>Privacy statement</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>North America</td>
<td></td>
<td>Useful links</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**European Commission website**

**Contact the European Commission**

Follow the European Commission on social media

**Language policy**

**Cookies**
Welcome to EURAXESS in Türkiye

EURAXESS is a platform for researchers, entrepreneurs, universities and businesses to interact with each other and a joint initiative of the European Commission with the 40 countries participating in the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Programme for Research. Türkiye is one of them.

We provide information and assistance to researchers via this portal and with the support of our national EURAXESS Centre. The Service Centres in Türkiye help researchers and their family to plan and organize their move to Türkiye and assist with all matters related to mobility. Researchers coming to Türkiye can use this portal to get practical information concerning professional and daily life, as well as information on research jobs and funding opportunities in Türkiye.

Researchers leaving Türkiye can use this portal to get information about funding opportunities in Türkiye and can also check their destination countries’ EURAXESS portals to get information about their opportunities.

Based at "The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye - TÜBİTAK" with Service Centres in Ankara, İstanbul and İzmir, EURAXESS Türkiye provides free of charge services to all researchers.
Any questions?

Tuğba ARSLAN KANTARCIOĞLU, PhD
Burcu Bahar GOĞÜŞ DOĞAN, Phd
Şeyma SAYIMLAR

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