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ERC Science Journalism Initiative

DISCLAIMER: The launch of the call for proposals to implement ERC Science Journalism Initiative is conditional upon the final adoption, without significant modifications, of ERC Work Programme 2023 by the European Commission.

ERC Science Journalism Initiative



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- What
 - Part of draft ERC Work Programme 2023*
- Why
 - ERC grant of 1.5 million supporting the setup and running of a small grants scheme to fund short-term stays of science journalists at research institutions
- How
- When
- ROI
 - Small grants to help journalists report on frontier science, immerse in science at a research institute, work on an in-depth project, but also help scientists understand the media

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- What
 - Why
 - How
 - When
 - ROI
- Underreported topics
 - Infodemic, fake news, disinformation
 - Weak science journalism
 - Digital disruption and media without a viable business model
 - Journalists under pressure
 - Society's expectation that researchers communicate better

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- Why
 - What
 - **How**
 - When
 - ROI
- *Coordination and Support Action (CSA) in 2023 Work Programme**
 - Find partner/beneficiary via a call for proposals to manage the small grant scheme
 - Help in match-making journalists and researchers
 - Ensure editorial independence of participating journalists
 - Run the project for up to 4 years

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- Why
 - What
 - How
 - **When**
 - ROI
- Work Programme adoption in July 2022
 - Call for proposals launched in September 2022
 - Selection of the partner in Winter 2023
 - Start of the project in Spring 2023
 - Pilot projects in 2022 (tbc)

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The timetable is provisional.

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- Why
 - What
 - How
 - When
 - **ROI**
- Gaining direct media coverage of the ERC or ERC-funding is **NOT** the objective of this project
 - Long-term: advancing the ERC's mandate by "raising the profile of frontier research in Europe"
 - Increased trust between researchers and journalists
 - Expectation that many ERC grantees and their host institutions, including press offices will join

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