

Calls for proposals

Calls for proposals for the ERC grant schemes are published annually on the ERC website, the Horizon 2020 Participant Portal and in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Grant applications can be submitted electronically only in response to a call for proposals via the Participant Portal within the deadline specified in each call.

Non-European researchers

A specific page for non-European researchers is available at:

<https://erc.europa.eu/funding/non-european-researchers>

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess>

Opportunities to visit research teams in Europe

<https://erc.europa.eu/funding/additional-opportunities#IA>

ERC National Contact Points

National Contact Points (NCPs) have been nominated by national governments to provide information and support to applicants. The list of NCPs can be found at:

<http://erc.europa.eu/ncp>

ERC Update

To receive updated information about the ERC, its activities, its presence at events worldwide, its grantees and their research, subscribe on our website.

Further information

<http://erc.europa.eu>

<http://ec.europa.eu/horizon2020>

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>

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Opportunities to visit research teams in Europe



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The ERC funding strategy - a success story for Europe

The European Research Council (ERC), set up by the European Union in 2007, is the premier European funding organisation for excellent frontier research. It supports the highest quality research in Europe through competitive funding across all fields, on the basis of scientific excellence. With its 'bottom-up' approach, the ERC invests in risky research allowing bright minds to follow their scientific curiosity and identify new opportunities. The funds are thereby channelled into new and promising areas at the frontiers of knowledge, including interdisciplinary studies.

Without any prerequisite regarding impact, major discoveries are brought about, and serendipity is often at play.

The ERC has four main grant schemes: Starting Grants, Consolidator Grants, Advanced Grants and Synergy Grants.

Research projects funded by the ERC generally last up to five years (up to 6 years for ERC Synergy Grants) and can cover frontier research in any domain, including social sciences and humanities.



ERC grants are becoming more and more internationally recognised as awards for scientific excellence



There are over 100,000 publications in top scientific journals reported by ERC projects to date



One third of all ERC grantees already published at least one article in the top 1% most highly cited publications worldwide



Numerous grantees won prestigious prizes: 6 Nobel Prizes, 3 Fields Medals, 5 Wolf Prizes and countless others

ERC Open to the world

Funding for international research visits to ERC teams

In line with its strive to increase international 'brain circulation' and to attract more talent to Europe, the ERC launched initiatives to encourage young scientists, supported by non-European funding agencies, to visit ERC grantees and become a part of their teams in Europe.

The goal of this initiative is to foster collaboration between top researchers in Europe and the partner countries, and to strengthen the visiting researchers' profile in a highly competitive international research environment.

Which costs are covered?

As a general rule, the travel expenses of the visiting researcher are covered by the national funding organisation, and the local expenses in Europe are covered by the ERC grant. For more details, please consult the relevant separate sheet for each country that has signed such an agreement.

How does it work?

Every year in autumn (normally in October) the ERC calls for an expression of interest from ERC grantees to host foreign researchers in their teams for a variable period of time. These researchers must come from countries that have signed an agreement with the ERC and be hosted by grantees with at least 18 months to the end of their project.

The ERC sends a listing of the interested grantees/teams to the non-European agencies, together with the description of their respective ERC-funded projects.

The non-European funding agency informs eligible researchers in their country of the opportunities available describing the goals of the ERC schemes and the collaborative opportunities as defined by the ERC grantees. Eligible researchers are then invited to negotiate the terms and conditions of the collaboration directly with ERC grantees to prepare their application and submit it.

Subsequently the non-European funding agency makes the final selection and can fund the research visit.

Each funding agency follows its own criteria and procedure for selecting scientists for funding under their international arrangement.

The ERC itself does neither intervene in the selection, nor in the communication between the ERC grantee and the potential visitor.

ERC grants open to all nationalities

Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for ERC grants provided the research they undertake will be carried out in an EU Member State or Associated Country.

Researchers moving to Europe can apply for additional funding, which can total up to €2 million for a Starting Grant (compared to €1.5 million for those already established in Europe), €2.75 million for a Consolidator Grant (instead of €2 million), €3.5 million for an Advanced Grant (instead of €2.5 million) and €14 million for a Synergy Grant (instead of €10 million).