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DI PADOVA

International funding opportunities for young researchers

Ph.D. Iliaria Rodella - Research Advisor

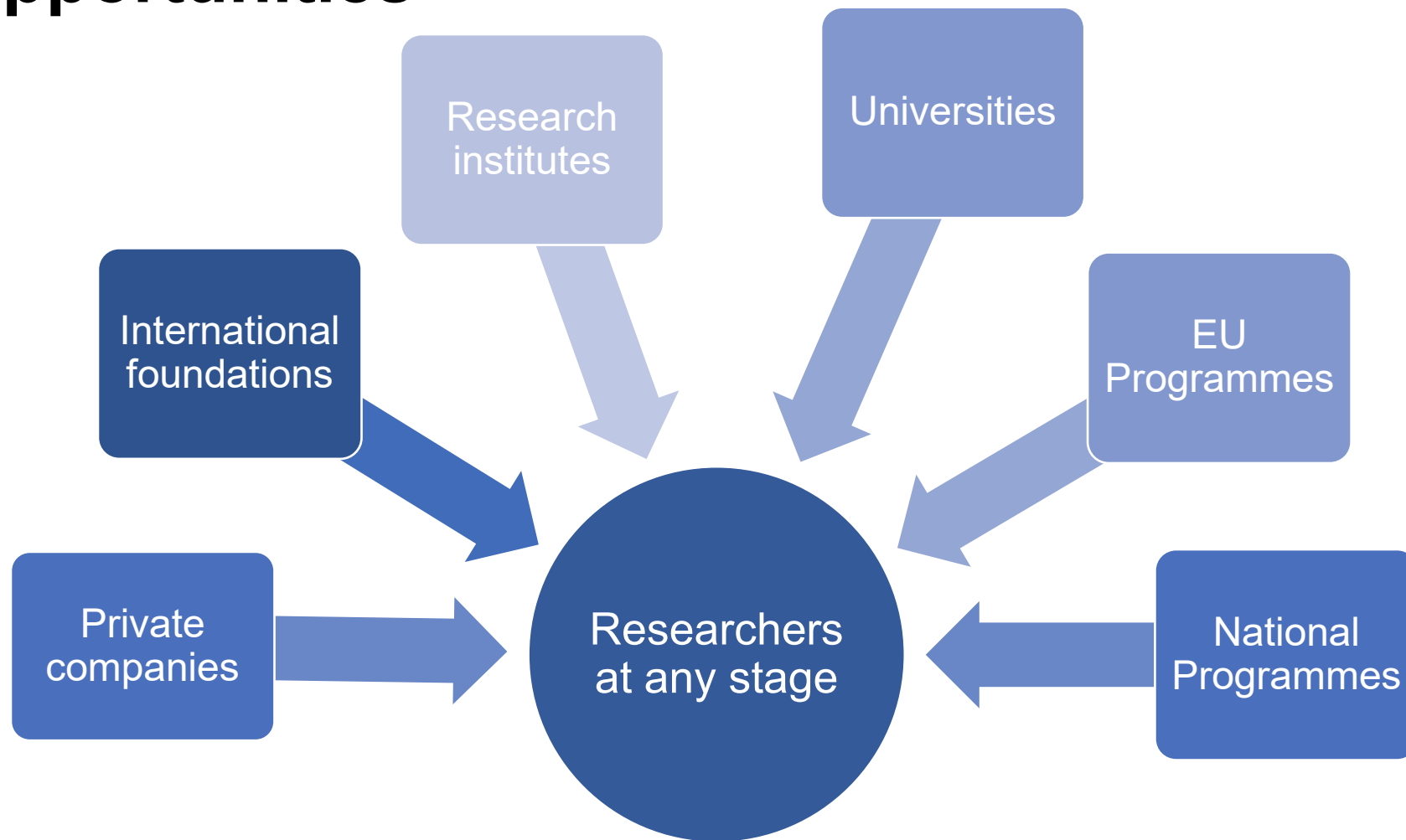
ilaria.rodella@unipd.it

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16/04/2026

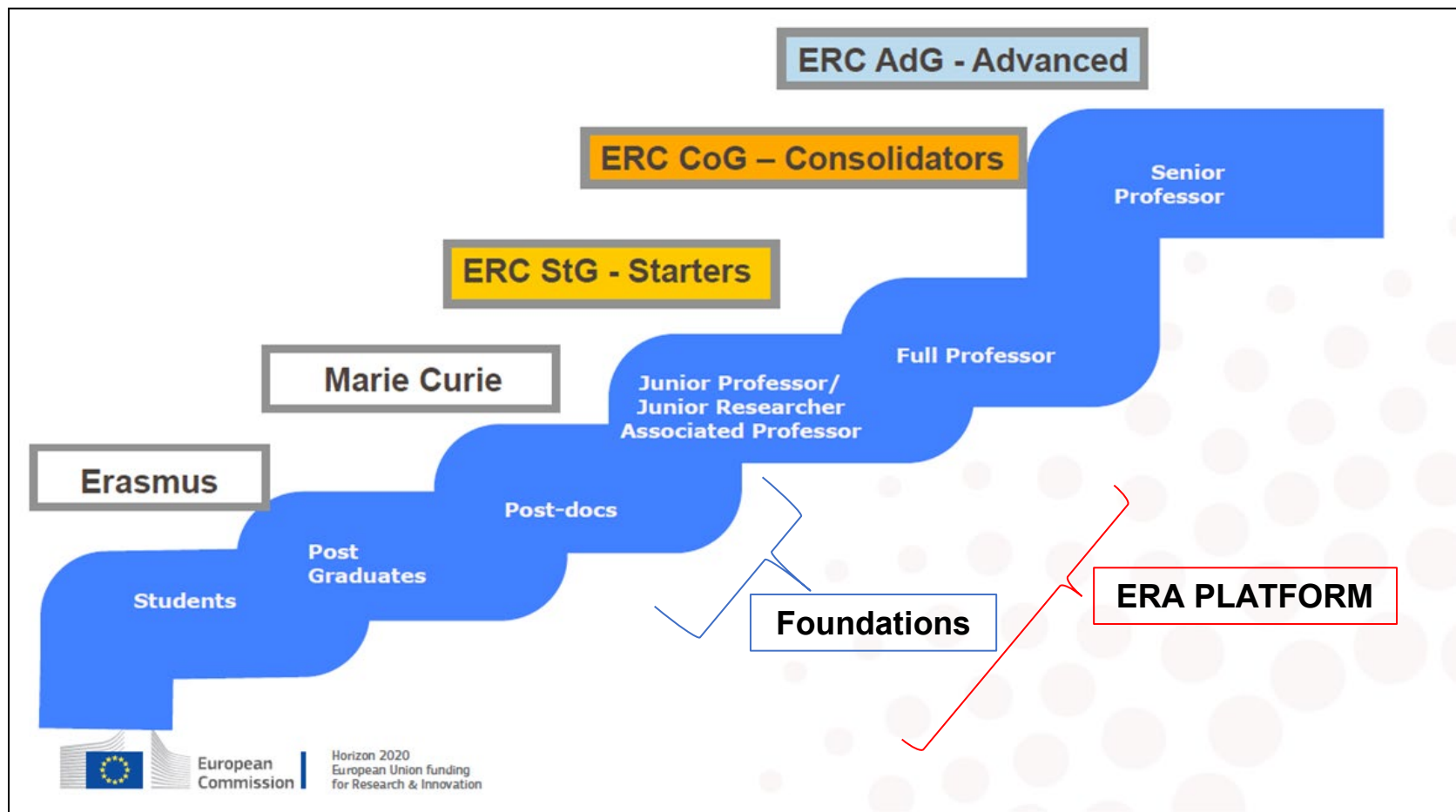


Funding opportunities





EU opportunities





THE NEW ERA TALENT PLATFORM

Unlocking Research Careers

- The ERA Talent Platform is your **one-stop-shop** for research and innovation in Europe and beyond
- It was launched on 10 June 2024
- It is crucial for **attracting and keeping talented researchers in Europe**, supporting the European Research Area (ERA) in global talent competition
- It offers a comprehensive online gateway for **researchers and institutions**
- It provides **access to a wide range of services**





ERA TALENT PLATFORM INITIATIVES



EURAXESS

A unique web portal offering tailored information, job opportunities, career development guidance, free tools and much more for researchers and research performing organisations in Europe and beyond.

[Explore EURAXESS >](#)



HR Excellence in Research

The HR Excellence in Research award is granted to the institutions and funding organisations striving to align their human resources policies to the principles of the European Charter for Researchers.

[Explore HR Excellence in Research >](#)

resaver

RESAVER

RESAVER is a pan-European occupational pension solution designed for R&I organisations and their employees. It enables mobile workers to protect their pension rights while allowing organisations to manage and attract talent throughout Europe.

[Explore RESAVER >](#)



Research Career Observatory (ReICO)

ReICO is the main living information repository for monitoring trends in research and innovation talent development and in particular researchers' careers, skills and working conditions.

[Explore the Observatory >](#)



Innovation Talent Platform

An EU-wide matching tool to help businesses and entrepreneurs across Europe and beyond to find the talent they need or their way to the European market.

[Explore Innovation Talent Platform >](#)



ResearchComp

ResearchComp is the European Competence Framework for Researchers. It supports the assessment and development by researchers of transversal skills that can offer them more career opportunities by fostering inter-sectoral mobility.

[Explore ResearchComp >](#)



RM Comp

RM Comp is the European Competence Framework for Research Managers. It identifies the essential skills required for effective research management, fosters career development opportunities, and enables organisations to align with European standards, promoting consistency across roles and institutions.

[Explore RM Comp >](#)



EURAXESS

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

The screenshot shows the EURAXESS website homepage. At the top left is the European Commission logo. On the right, there is a 'Log in' button and a search bar with a 'Search' button. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads 'EURAXESS Researchers in motion'. A horizontal menu contains links for 'Home', 'Jobs & Opportunities', 'Living & Working in Europe', 'Career Development', 'Initiatives', 'Network', and 'ERA Talent Platform'. Below the menu, a breadcrumb trail indicates 'You are here: Home'. The main content area features a large heading 'EURAXESS - researchers in motion' and a sub-heading 'The leading portal for the research community'. A paragraph of text asks if the user is a researcher ready to move to another country or a research organization seeking top talent, and encourages joining the EURAXESS network. To the right, there is a video player thumbnail for 'Euraxess - 20 years' showing a map of Europe with 43 countries highlighted, a play button, and a 'Copia link' icon. At the bottom of the video player, it says 'Guarda su YouTube'.



Section “Jobs and Opportunities”

- Information about **job opportunities** and funding options
- Possible use of several **filters**

Open positions for geologists

https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/search?f%5B0%5D=job_research_field%3A220&f%5B1%5D=job_research_profile%3A448&f%5B2%5D=job_research_profile%3A449&f%5B3%5D=offer_type%3Ajob_offer

EURAXESS
Researchers in motion

Home **Jobs & Opportunities** Living & Working in Europe Career Development Initiatives Network ERA Talent Platform

You are here: Home > Jobs and Opportunities > Search Jobs and Opportunities

Search Jobs and Opportunities

Take advantage of EURAXESS and find your job, funding or hosting opportunity. Browse through thousands of vacancies and fellowships from Europe and around the world.

Search results (7) Showing results 1 to 7

Save Search

Geology Recognised Researcher (R2) Established Researcher (R3) Job Offer

Hide Filters Simple view Sort results

JOB SWITZERLAND

Paul Scherrer Institut Villigen | Posted on: 8 April 2026

Postdoctoral Fellow – innovative ore processing (Index-Nr. 6311-26620)

The Paul Scherrer Institute PSI is the largest research institute for natural and engineering sciences within Switzerland. We perform cutting-edge research in the fields of future technologies, energy and climate, health innovation and fundamentals of nature. By performing fundamental and applied...

Work Locations: Number of offers: 1, Switzerland, Paul Scherrer Institut

Research Field: Geosciences » Geology

Researcher Profile: Recognised Researcher (R2)

Funding Programme: Not funded by a EU programme

Application Deadline: 17 May 2026 - 23:59 (Europe/Zurich)

Share

JOB CROATIA

Croatian Geological Survey | Posted on: 8 April 2026

Senior Assistant for the project „Subfossil Chironomids from Croatian karst lakes: proxies for



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International Foundations



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Funding bodies

the
giovanni **ARMENISE**
HARVARD foundation

SIMONS FOUNDATION

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

alzheimer's  association®



the **cogito** foundation



LEVERHULME
TRUST

James S. McDonnell Foundation



Max Weber
Stiftung

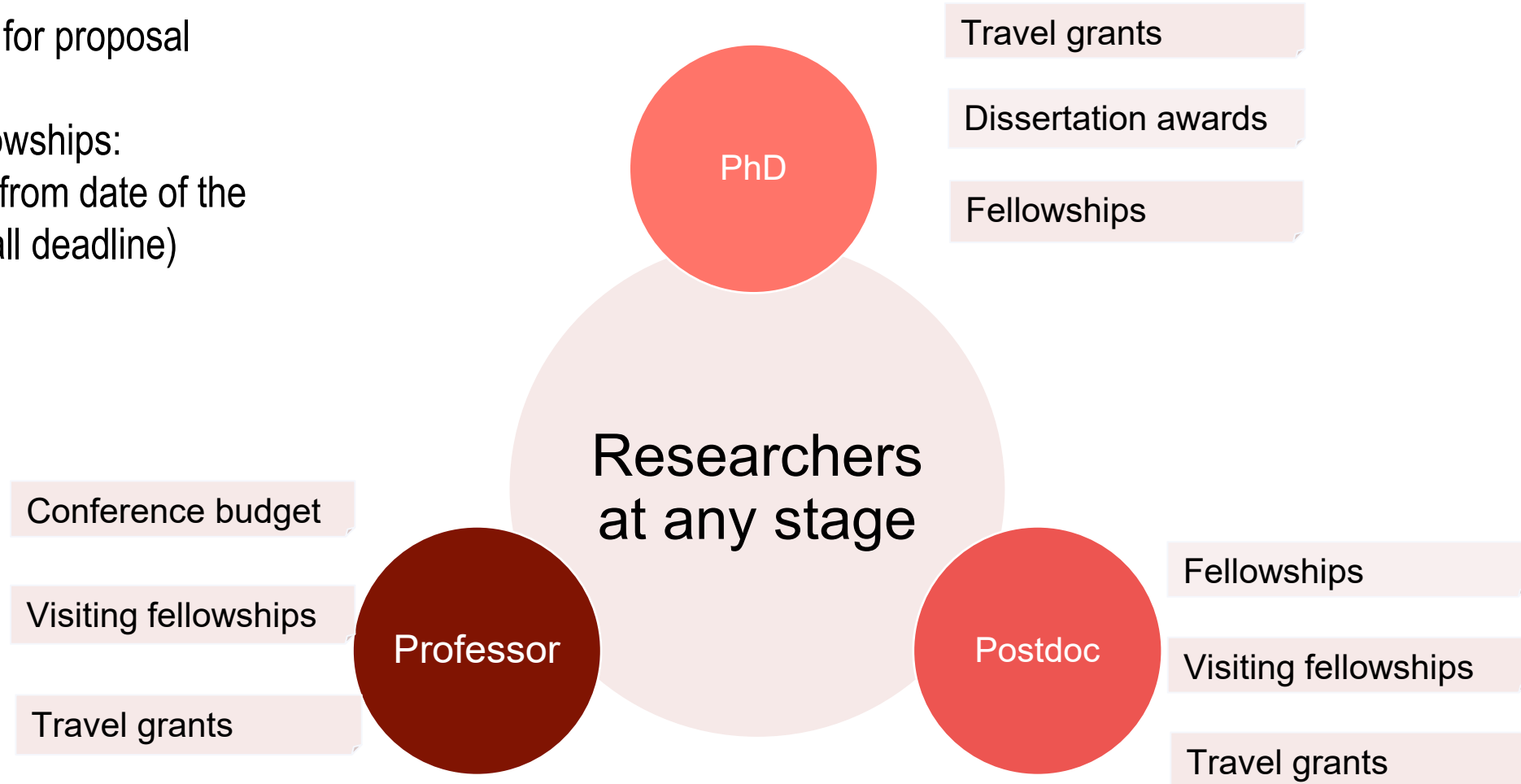
Deutsche
Geisteswissenschaftliche
Institute im Ausland

GERDA HENKEL STIFTUNG



Focus on Foundations

- The eligibility rules are different based on the call for proposal
- For Postdoc Fellowships:
PhD (0 → X years from date of the award to the call deadline)





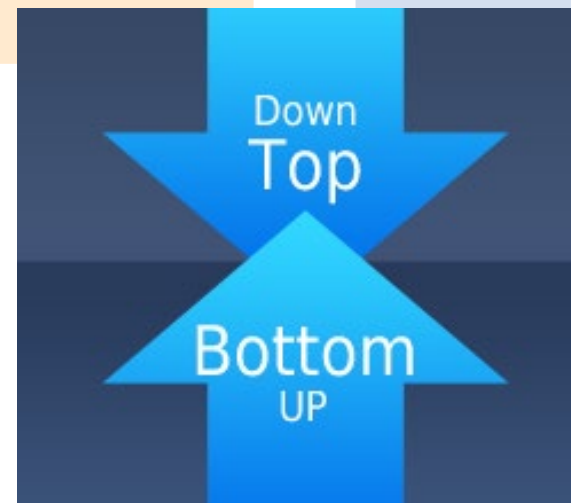
Type of funding

Individual projects

- Single researcher
- (small research group can be recruited)

Collaborative projects

- Team of researchers
- One coordinator
- International/multi-institutional
- Interdisciplinary/intersectoral





Where and for how long

Only in the country of the funding organisation
or
Wherever in Europe and in the World



Grant duration: from 1 week to 5 years



How to write



- Consider mission and goals of the funding organisation
- understand the topic (if any) and address it
- keep the evaluation criteria in mind
- the scientific case must be well-presented and argued, including the progress beyond the state of the art
- Define objectives, work plan, results in a clear way
- Address risks (if existing)

Success rate: 7%-33%



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Canon Foundation

15 Research Fellowships

All fields of research

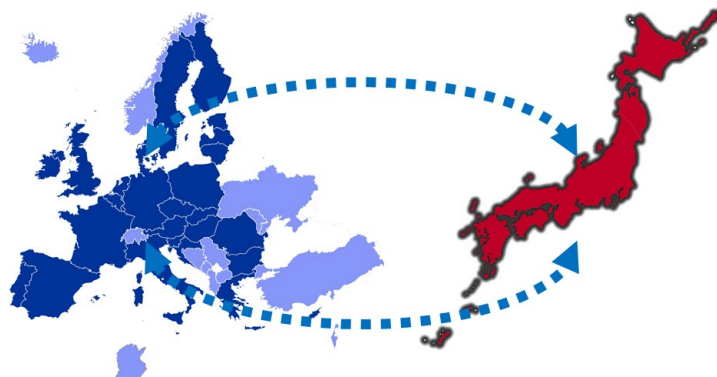
3 months - 1 year

Master's/PhD within the last
10 years

September each year

Up to 30,000 EUR per year

<https://www.canonfoundation.org/>



CANON
FOUNDATION
IN EUROPE

Canon

EXTENDED
DEADLINE CHANGED
TO 15 FEBRUARY 2021 FOR
APPLICATIONS FOR 2021-2022
APPLY VIA OUR WEBSITE

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19
BECAUSE OF THE ONGOING SITUATION,
THE EARLIEST START DATE THAT AN
APPLICANT CAN APPLY TO DO RESEARCH
IS FROM SEPTEMBER 2021 UNTIL
DECEMBER 2022

RESEARCH
GRANTS IN
JAPAN AND
EUROPE

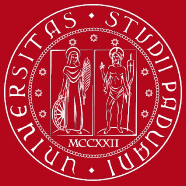
FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS,
GRANTS ARE OFFERED, REGARDLESS OF DISCIPLINE,
TO EUROPEANS FOR RESEARCH IN JAPAN AND
FOR JAPANESE FOR RESEARCH IN EUROPE.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE CANON FOUNDATION IN EUROPE

P.O. BOX 2262, 1180 EG AMSTELVEEN, THE NETHERLANDS
VISITING ADDRESS: BOVENKERKERWEG 59, 1185 XB AMSTELVEEN
TELEPHONE +31 20 545 8934
FOUNDATION@CANON-EUROPE.COM | WWW.CANONFOUNDATION.ORG

Board member José R. Fernandez with Canon Fellow Tobias Burgers, Kyoto, Japan 2019

f in YouTube



Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung

The Foundation supports postdoctoral and experienced researchers of **all nationalities and research areas** with their research in Germany.

Fellowships for **postdoctoral researchers**

- 6-24 months
- € 2,700/month (plus additional benefits)
- Always open
- PhD completed less than 4 years ago

Humboldt Research Fellowship

👤 postdoctoral researchers, experienced researchers

🌐 all countries (excluding Germany)

📅 6–24-month research stay in Germany



[Link](#)



Branco Weiss Fellowship

- **Deadline:** 15 January 2026
- **PhD** obtained a maximum of **5 years** prior to deadline
- Projects must depart from the mainstream of research in the discipline
- To have a record of outstanding scientific achievement
- **All disciplines**
- Projects should be conceived to last **5 years**
- Max. CHF 600,000 for up to five years.

[Link](#)

The
Branco Weiss
Fellowship
Society in Science

The screenshot shows the website for The Branco Weiss Fellowship, Society in Science. At the top right, there are links for CONTACT, LEGAL AND PRIVACY, and ETH zürich. Below these are navigation links for FELLOWSHIP, FELLOWS & ALUMNI, APPLICATION, and NEWS & ACTIVITIES. The main image is a large model of a Mars rover with gold thermal blankets, displayed in a museum setting. Below the image, there are two columns of text under the heading 'Who Should Apply'. The left column lists 'Eligibility, Duration, and Funding', 'Timelines', 'Application', 'Guidelines', and 'Frequently Asked Questions'. The right column contains the text: 'Candidates who excel beyond boundaries', 'The ideal applicant for a Branco Weiss Fellowship leverages the freedom offered by the fellowship to design a surprisingly novel and scientifically rigorous research project. The fellowship addresses junior researchers with a record of outstanding scientific achievement and a passion for venturing into new territory (see: [Mission](#)).', 'To give you an impression of what kind of qualifications a typical Branco Weiss Fellow should have, please check the current [fellow profiles](#), as well as selected [alumni portraits](#).', and 'Before applying or contacting us, please read the information on this website carefully.'



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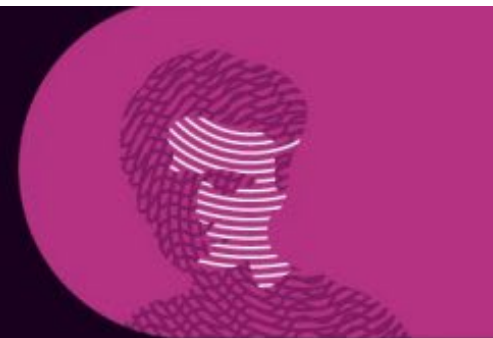
Horizon Europe 2021-2027

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions

MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research



MSCA
Postdoctoral
Fellowships





Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships

DOCTORAL NETWORKS

Doctoral programmes in
and outside academia
incl. Joint & industrial
doctorates

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Support to excellent
postdoctoral
researchers

STAFF EXCHANGE

Support for research
and innovation staff
exchanges

COFUND

Co-funding doctoral and
postdoctoral programmes

MSCA and CITIZENS

Public outreach events
(Nights)



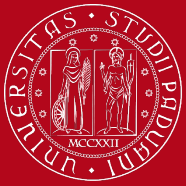
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Key features - Mobility



Physical mobility: researchers who receive funding have to move from one country to another to acquire new knowledge, skills and competences, and develop their research career.

Virtual mobility can complement it.



Key features - Mobility

EU Member States



Associated Countries

1. Albania
2. Armenia
3. Bosnia and Herzegovina
4. Canada (Pillar II)
5. Egypt
6. Faroe Islands
7. Georgia
8. Iceland
9. Israel
10. Kosovo
11. Moldova
12. Montenegro
13. New Zealand (Pillar II)
14. North Macedonia
15. Norway
16. Republic of Korea
17. Serbia
18. Tunisia
19. Türkiye
20. Ukraine
21. United Kingdom
22. Switzerland (transitional arrangements)

Third Countries

(No EU/Associated)





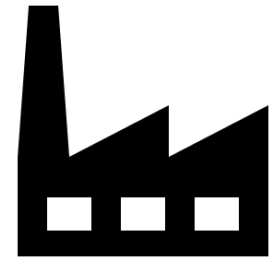
MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Applications are made jointly by the researcher and a **Host Institution** (Beneficiary):

- ✓ must be established in an **EU Member State** (MS) or Horizon Europe **Associated Country** (AC)
- ✓ in the **academic or non-academic sector**

AIM:

- undertake an original and personalised research and innovation project
- improve researchers' employability and career prospects **within academia and beyond**, with a strong focus on interdisciplinarity and intersectoral experience





Eligibility

Postdoctoral researchers

(holding a PhD at the call deadline)



Mobility rule

Recruited researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the beneficiary (for EF), or the host organisation for the outgoing phase (for GF) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline.



Any nationality

(GF: nationals or long-term residents of MS or HE AC)



Limited research experience

Up to 8 years research experience after PhD
-> with exceptions: career breaks (maternity/paternity leave), work outside research, long term sick leave,...





**Postdoctoral
Fellowship**

**European
Postdoctoral
Fellowship**

**Global
Postdoctoral
Fellowship**



Type of Fellowships - European

European Postdoctoral Fellowship

For fellows coming to or moving within Europe

Duration: 12-24 months





Type of Fellowships - Global

Global Postdoctoral Fellowship:

For Fellows from Europe (MS or AC) going to Third Countries and returning to Europe

Duration: 12-24 months outgoing phase

12 months mandatory return phase





Secondment

Researches may opt to include a secondment phase, within the overall duration of their fellowship in Europe and beyond

European
Postdoctoral
Fellowship

= $1/2$ of the fellowship duration

Global
Postdoctoral
Fellowship

= $1/2$ of the outgoing phase (max 3 months at the beneficiary, at the start of the project)



Non-Academic Placement



6

Additional period of up to six months to support researchers seeking a placement at the end of the project to work on R&I projects



Budget

| Contribution for the recruited researcher per person/month | | | Institutional unit Contributions per person/month | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Living allowance* | Mobility allowance | Family allowance (if applicable) ** | Research, training and networking contributions | Management and indirect contributions |
| EUR 5 990 | EUR 710 | EUR 660 | EUR 1 000 | EUR 650 |

The country correction coefficients will be applied to the living allowance

** For researchers that have or acquires family obligations during the action duration

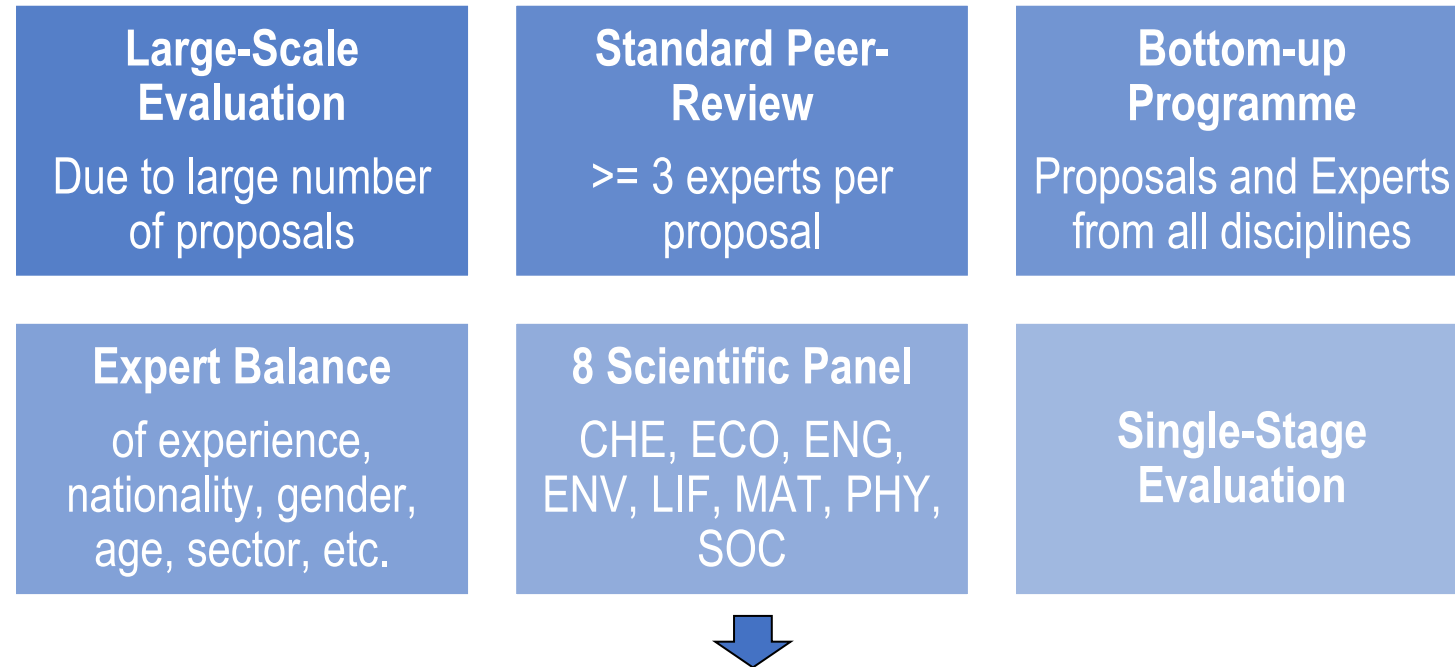
Grant covers up to 100% of the costs

Gross amount

Full time



The MSCA-PF Evaluation



- Each Panel will establish two ranked list, one for European and one for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships.
- The distribution of available funding will be proportional to the number of eligible proposals received in each main evaluation panel



Award Criteria

| Excellence | Impact | Quality and efficiency of the implementation |
|------------|--------|--|
| 50% | 30% | 20% |
| Weighting | | |

≥ 80 considered for funding

< 80 stop for one year

Seal of Excellence ≥ 85





Call planning

Call Opening: 9 April 2026

Call Deadline: 9 September 2026

Evaluation period: Oct 2026 – Jan 2027

Launch Grant preparation: Feb 2027

Project Starting dates: Apr 2027 – Sept 2028



Call 2025

2025 Results:

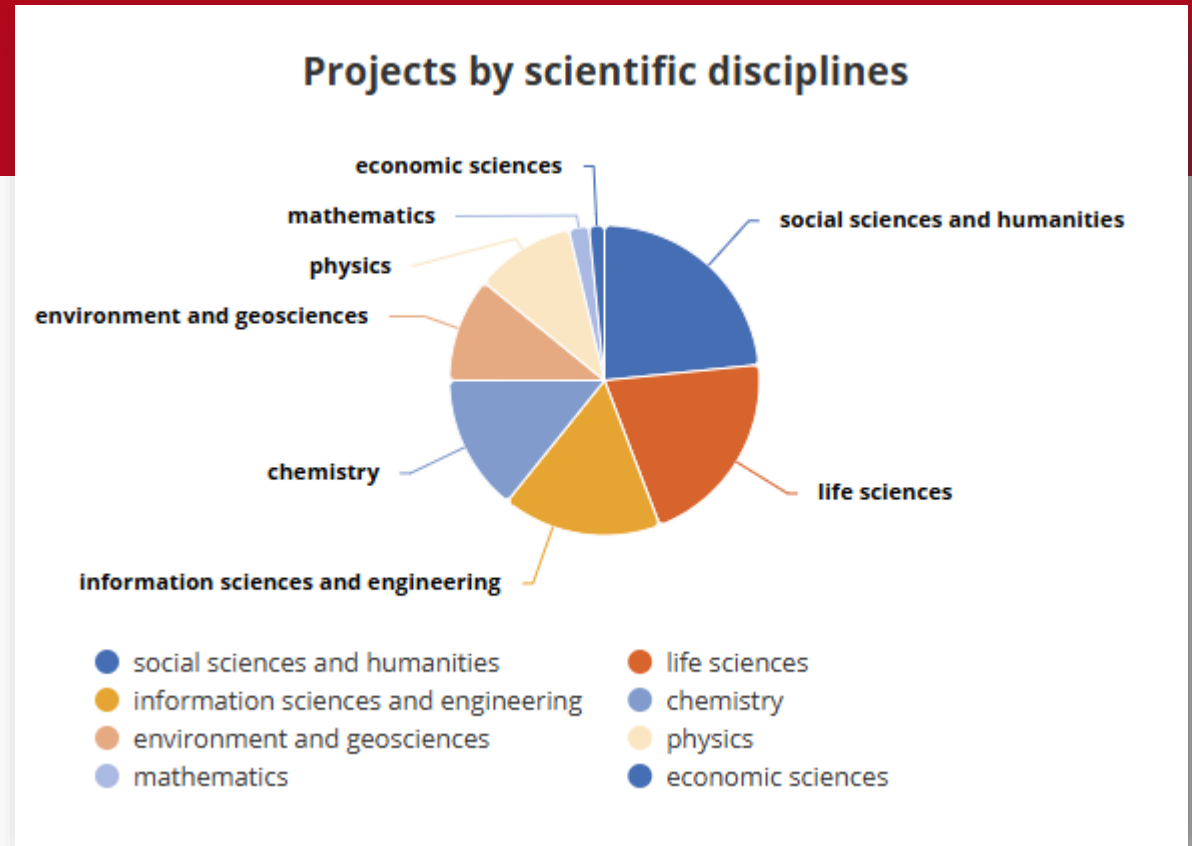
17.066 Proposals -> Record number!

1.610 winners (9,6%)

1.446 European Postdoctoral Fellowships

164 Global Postdoctoral Fellowships

Total budget: 404.3 million euros



- social sciences and humanities (23.4%)
- life sciences (20.8%)
- information sciences and engineering (16.6%)
- chemistry (14.2%)
- physics (10.4%)
- environment and geosciences (10.9%)
- mathematics (2.1%)
- economic sciences (1.6%)



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European Research Council (ERC)

**HORIZON EUROPE: 2021-2027
EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL**





Activity:

The fundamental activity of the ERC is to provide attractive, long-term funding to support excellent investigators and their research teams to pursue groundbreaking, and ambitious research.

Excellence is the sole criterion on the basis of which ERC frontier research grants are awarded



Bottom up approach:

The ERC's frontier research grants operate on a 'bottom-up' basis without predetermined priorities.

The ERC puts particular emphasis on the frontiers of science, scholarship and engineering.

In particular, it welcomes proposals of an **interdisciplinary nature** which cross the boundaries between different fields of research, pioneering proposals addressing new and emerging fields of research or proposals introducing unconventional, innovative approaches and scientific inventions.



Life Sciences

- LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures and Functions
- LS2 Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems
- LS3 Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration
- LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing
- LS5 Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System
- LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy
- LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases
- LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution
- LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering



Physical Sciences & Engineering

- PE1 Mathematics
- PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter
- PE3 Condensed Matter Physics
- PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences
- PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials
- PE6 Computer Science and Informatics
- PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering
- PE8 Products and Process Engineering
- PE9 Universe Sciences
- PE10 Earth System Science
- PE11 Materials Engineering

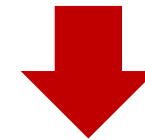
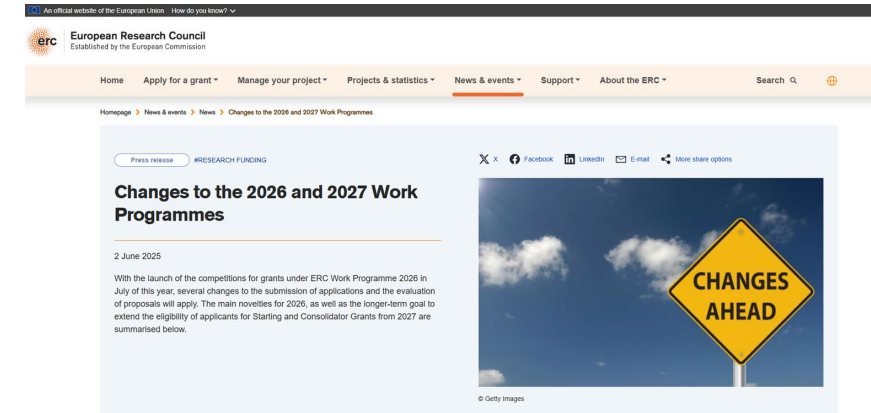


Social Sciences and Humanities

- SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations
- SH2 Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
- SH3 The Social World and Its Interactions
- SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity
- SH5 Texts and Concepts
- SH6 The Study of the Human Past
- SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space
- SH8 Studies of Cultures and Arts

ERC Grant schemes

WARNING



STG
Starting Grants
(2-7 years after PhD)

up to €1.5 Million
for 5 years
+ up to €1 Million

COG
Consolidator Grants
(7-12 years after PhD)

up to €2 Million
for 5 years
+ up to €1 Million

ADG
Advanced Grants
10 years' track-record

up to €2.5 Million
for 5 years
+ up to €1 Million

Proof-of-Concept -POC
bridging gap between research –
earliest stage of marketable innovation
€150,000 for ERC grantees holders

Synergy Grant - SYG
2-4 Principal Investigators
up to €10 Million for 6 years
+ up to €4 Million

From 2027 eligibility period for

- StG □ **0-10** years after successfully defended the PhD
- CoG □ **5-15** years after successfully defended the PhD



Starting Grant: characteristics

For excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are starting their own independent research team or programme.

REQUIREMENTS

- One PI, no network or consortium
- **0-10 years after PhD**
- Commitment ($\geq 50\%$ working time in an EU Member State or Associated Country; $\geq 50\%$ working time on ERC project)

OFFERING

- **1,5M euro up to 5 years**
- extra budget 1M (PI from outside Europe, purchase of major equipment, large facilities, other major experimental and field work costs)



Profile of the ERC Starting Grant Principal Investigator

A competitive Starting Grant PI should have already shown the potential for research independence

✓ at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of the PhD supervisor

✓ must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition, and feasibility of the research proposal.



NEW

Profile of the ERC Principal Investigator

The ERC Work Programme will no longer include detailed prescriptive profiles of principal investigators.

Curriculum Vitae and Track Record will be merged into one document of up to four pages:

- ✓ standard **biographical** information
- ✓ a list of **up to ten research outputs** that demonstrate how they have advanced knowledge in their field, with an emphasis on more recent achievements
- ✓ a list of selected examples of significant **peer recognition** (for example, prizes)
- ✓ a **short explanation** of the significance of the selected outputs, the applicant's role in producing each of them, and how the applicant has demonstrated their capacity to successfully carry out the proposed project can also be included
- ✓ relevant information on, for example, **career breaks, unusual career paths**, as well as any particularly noteworthy contributions to the research community. *These will not in themselves be evaluated but are important to provide context to the evaluation panels when assessing the principal investigator's research achievements and peer recognition in relation to their career stage.*



Evaluation Process

Single Submission

Excellence
=
sole criterion

Two steps evaluation

STEP 1

Remote assessment by **Panel Members**
see **ONLY Scientific Proposal Part I and CV**

Panel meeting

Proposal rejected
(scores A-not invited & B&C)

Proposal retained
For step 2 (score A-invited)

STEP 2

Remote assessment by **Panel Members**
and **Remote Reviewers** of full proposals

Panel meeting

+ interview StG, CoG and AdG

Proposal funded if
within available budget
(score A)

Proposal rejected
(score B)

only 44 can pass

Feedback to applicants

Restrictions on submission of proposals

STEP 2



A
not funded

- You can re-apply the next call

B

- You can re-apply the next call

A not invited

- You can re-apply the next call

B

- You have to **wait for 1 year** to re-apply

C

- You have to **wait for 2 years** to re-apply

STEP 1



ERC: the key for a brilliant career

- Basic research on freely chosen topics (bottom-up / curiosity-driven / investigator-driven research).
- Researchers of any age or nationality, with any employment status (including postdocs), and even those outside the institution chosen as the project's Host Institution.
- Individual research (by the PI and their team).
- High funding for 5 years (staff, equipment, etc.).
- Calls issued annually since 2007.
- Contracts with the Host Institution for ERC winners lasting 5 years (in Italy, much more).
- Portability.
- ERC is a mark of quality: it gives visibility to recipients, helps attract top international team members and collaborators, and supports the acquisition of additional funding.



European Research Council (ERC)



Part A – online forms

- A1: Proposal and PI info
- A2: HI info
- A3: Budget + Resources
- Ethical self-assessment

Part B1 – pdf

- Proposal Part I: 5 pp
(+ Refs)
- CV + Track record: 4 pp

Annexes – pdf

- Support letter HI
- PhD Diploma (with date)
- Annex Ethical Issues
- Eligibility extensions

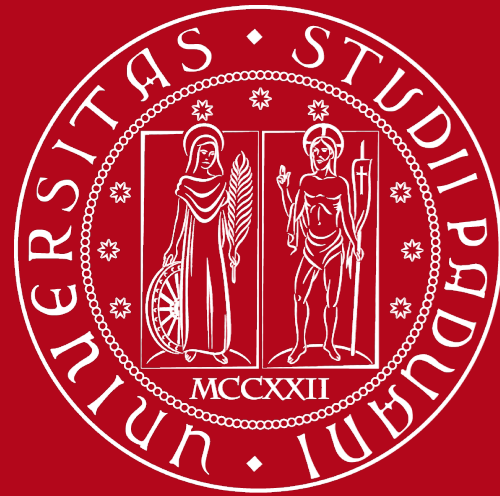
Part B2 – pdf

- Proposal Part II: 7 pp
(+ Refs)
- Funding ID (overlapping): 1p



New from WP 2026

THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION



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