

# Funding for PostDocs – MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships & European Research Council (ERC)

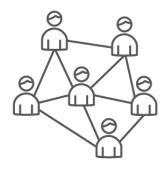
DAAD Networking Forum "EU-Higher Education Cooperation between Germany and Eastern Africa"

13.09.2024 Isabel Herzhoff, KoWi

#### European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations







Information, advice & training on EU research & innovation funding

"One-Stop-Shop" for Horizon Europe Service platform for our supporting association\* focussing on universities

Financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG)

Connected on European level

Offices in Bonn & Brussels

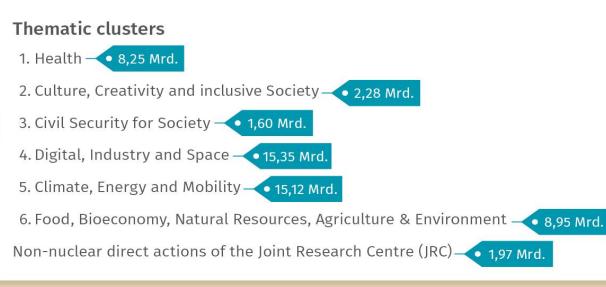


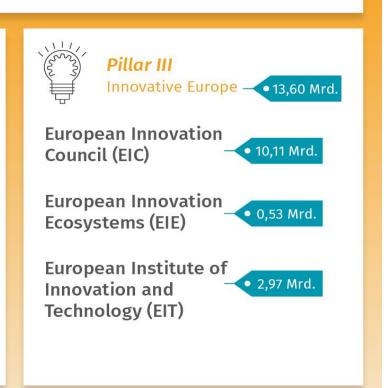
### Horizon Europe – Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027)

# Horizon Europe (2021-2027) - 95,52 Mrd.









Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area — 3,39 Mrd.

**Widening Participation** and Spreading Excellence — 2,96 Mrd.

**Reforming and Enhancing** the European R&I System — 0,44 Mrd.



#### **MSCA**



European Research Council (ERC)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

**Research Infrastructures** 

**Doctoral Networks** Postdoctoral Fellowships Staff Exchanges Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND) MSCA and Citizens



# MSCA – Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)



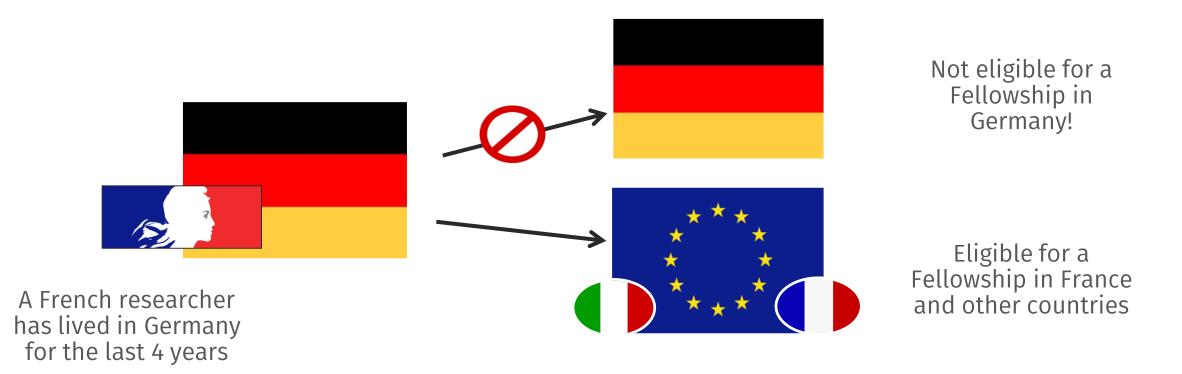
### Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships – Aims

- Strengthening the European Research Area (ERA)
  - Encouraging people to embark on research careers in Europe
  - Foster excellence through implementation of research project
- Enhancing mobility and collaboration
  - International
  - Interdisciplinary
  - Inter-sectoral
- Promoting the researchers' career development
  - Providing training for key competences in science and industry (training on research & transferable skills) -> employability
  - Creating fair and attractive working conditions



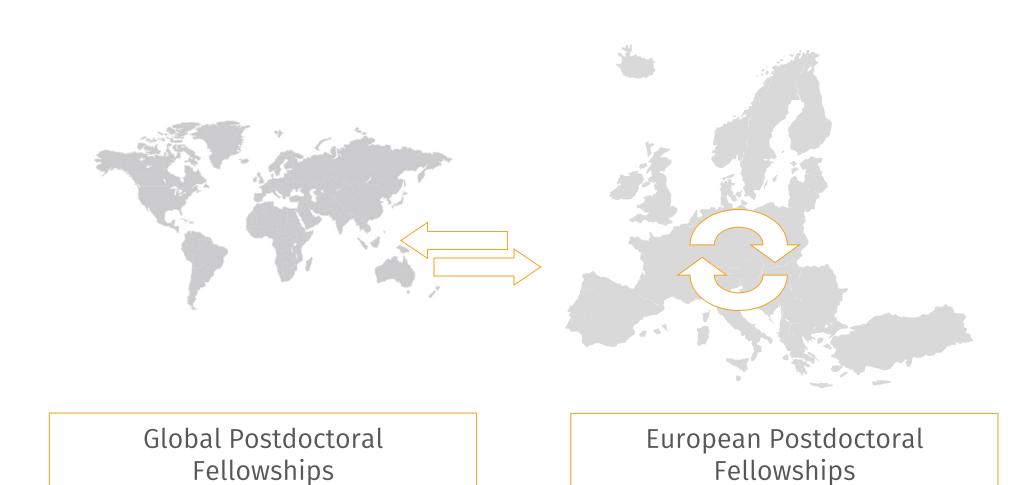
# **MSCA - Mobility Rule**

Fellow has lived or worked ≤ 12 months within the last 3 years in the potential host country





# Postdoctoral Fellowships – Global and European Fellowships





# European Postdoctoral Fellowship – Research Project in Europe (MS or AC)

- Eligible
  - Postdoctoral researchers with ≤ 8 years\* of full-time postdoctoral research experience, no nationality restriction
  - for resubmissions: application must have reached the quality threshold of 70%
- Mobility Rule: Stay in the host country not longer than 12 months within the last 3 years
- Project duration: 1-2 years (placement optional: +6 months in the non-academic sector in Europe)
- Secondment phase: Optionally worldwide for max. 1/3 of the project duration
- Procedure and contents of the Fellowship:
  - Fellow writes individual application jointly with Host Institution
  - Research & skill training at Host Institution



# Global Postdoctoral Fellowship – Research Project in Third Country (TC) and Europe

- Eligible
  - Postdocs with ≤ 8 years\* of research experience after PhD (full-time)
  - for resubmission: proposal must have reached the quality threshold of 70%
- Researchers Nationality: MS / AC or at least 5 years of residence in MS /AC ("long-term residents")
- Mobility Rule: Stay in the host country not longer than 12 months within the last 3 years
- Project duration
  - 1-2 years in TC (outgoing phase) + 1 year obligatory return phase in MS /AC (placement optional: +6 months in non-academic sector in Europe)
- Secondment phase: Optionally worldwide for max. 1/3 of the outgoing phase
- Procedure and contents of the Fellowship:
  - Fellow writes individual application jointly with Host Institution
  - Research & skill training at Host Institution



# **MSCA Financing**

In EUR; Funding 100%, in gross	Research unit cost (person/month)					Institutional unit cost (person/month)	
	Living allowance*	Mobility allowance	Family allowance**	Long-term leave allowance	Special- needs allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management & Overhead
Postdoctoral Fellowships	5990	660	660	6700	Depending on request	1000	650

\*Application of the country correction coefficient: for Germany 101.2%.

\*\* If applicable, can also be applied for after project start



#### Excellence

(weighting: 50%)

#### **Impact**

(weighting: 30%)

#### **Implementation**

(weighting: 20%)

#### **Evaluation Criteria and Panels**

- 8 Main Evaluation Panels
  - Chemistry (CHE)
  - Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
  - Economic Sciences (ECO)
  - Information Sciences and Engineering (ENG)
  - Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
  - Life Sciences (LIF)
  - Mathematics (MAT)
  - Physics (PHY)

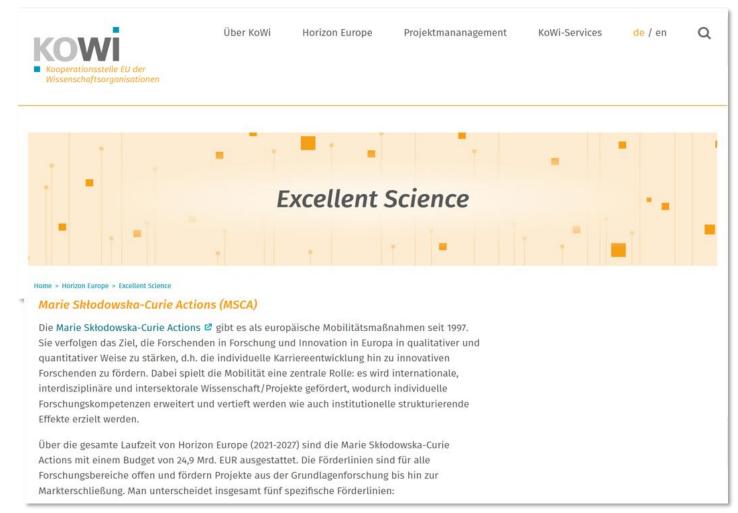


#### MSCA Call 2025

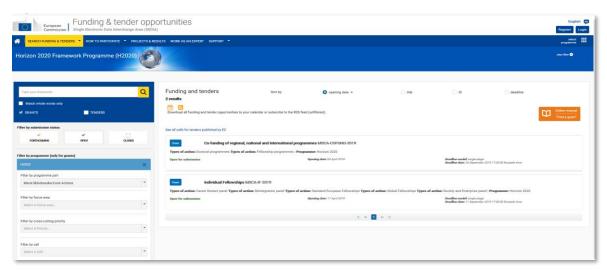
Action	Call opening	Deadline	
Postdoctoral Fellowships	09 April 2025	10 September 2025	



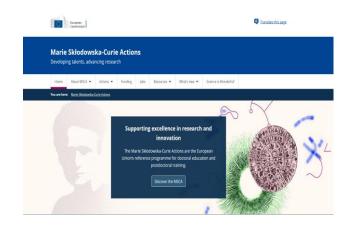
# Information online



#### KoWi Website



#### **Funding & Tenders Portal**





European Commission

NCP MSCA



# The magic of EU Research Funding



"Furthermore, there is evidence that former MSCA fellows tend to be more successful when applying for ERC grants"

Quote from the Horizon 2020 Ex-Post-Evaluation, January 2024







# **ERC Funding Schemes**



European Research Council (ERC)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

**Research Infrastructures** 

- Starting Grants2-7 years after PhD
- Consolidator Grants7-12 years after PhD
- Advanced Grants
  10 years track record
- Synergy Grants
   Teams with 2-4 PIs
- Proof of Concept
   Preparing ideas from ERC
   Grants for the market



# **ERC Underlying Principles**

- European funding of basic research ("frontier research")
- Development of funding schemes is science-driven (Scientific Council)
- Open to all fields of research: bottom-up, investigator-driven, annual calls for proposal
- Open for researchers of any age and nationality
- → Scientific excellence is the sole criterion for evaluation!



# **ERC Funding Modalities**

- Funding of individuals: Principal Investigator (PI) + project
- Support for researchers to start or consolidate their own independent research team in Europe (MS or AC)
- Funding: 100 % + 25 %
  - All direct project costs: salary of PI and project team (partly/full), travel expenses, consumables, publication costs (incl. Open Access), research-related costs, equipment costs (within the limits of depreciation rules), subcontracts
  - Additional financing of indirect costs: 25 % overhead



### ERC Starting Grants – Overview

- Target group
  - 2 7 years after PhD defence (extensions possible in exceptional cases; special rules for MD)
- Funding
  - Max. EUR 1.5 million for max. 5 years (all direct project costs, e.g. salary of PI and team members)
  - Exception: + EUR 1 million for major equipment, major fieldworks/ experimental costs or for PIs from Third Countries
- Host institution
  - In EU Member State or Associated Country
- Time commitment
  - ≥ 50% (≥ 50% in Europe)
- Procedure
  - Single submission of full proposal, two-step evaluation (incl. Interview)
- Yearly Call



# ERC Work Programme 2025 – dates

Funding scheme	Call-opening	Call-Deadline	Budget (Mio. EUR)	Estimated number of grants
Starting Grants	10 July 2024	15 October 2024	751	483
Consolidator Grants	26 September 2024	14 January 2025	719	354
		,		
Advanced Grants	22 May 2025	20 August 2025	602	276
Auvanceu Grants	22 May 2025	28 August 2025	683	2/0
Synergy Grants	11 July 2024	06 November 2024	500	48



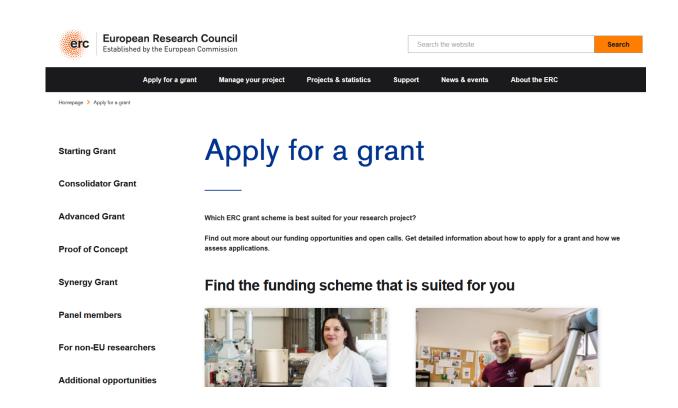
# **ERC** Information online



Welcome to the website of the EU Bureau of the BMBF!

We offer information and advice on European research and innovation policy and the corresponding EU Framework Programme.

National Contact Point ERC (NCP ERC): <a href="https://www.eubuero.de/en/index.html">https://www.eubuero.de/en/index.html</a>



ERC Website:

https://erc.europa.eu/







# AFRICA INITIATIVE II - HORIZON EUROPE strengthens EU-Africa cooperation in Research & Innovation



#### Africa Initiative II

In the 2<sup>nd</sup>Work Programme of Horizon Europe 2023-2024

- Building on the positiveoutcome of the Africa Initiative I ofHorizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022.
- •A total budget of ~300 MEUR through ~30 topics under calls for proposals to boostEU-Africa cooperation on Research & Innovation (R&I).

#### $\rightarrow$ Link:

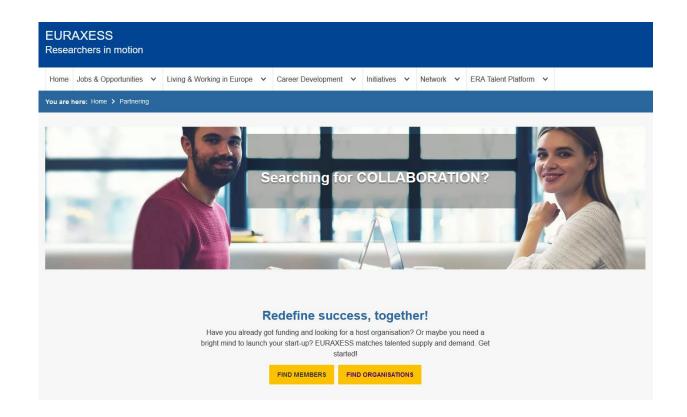
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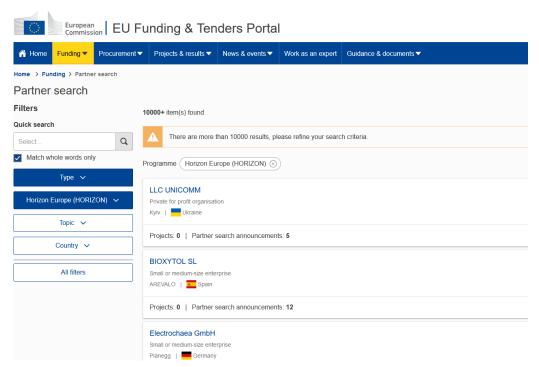




#### Partner search



Euraxess



Funding & Tenders Portal Partner search



#### KoWi Services on MSCA & ERC

(For ERC in cooperation with the EU Bureau of the BMBF as National Contact Point for ERC)

Information

- Information events and workshops
- KoWi Newsletter
- NCP ERC Newsletter and FAQs

Advice

- Individual advice and support for applicants
- Advice on legal, financial and project management aspects

**Training** 

- Workshops on application and grant management
- ERC Interview trainings



#### **Contact Persons ERC/MSCA**

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www.kowi.de

