



The European Research Council (ERC) in Horizon 2020

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EU-Bureau of the BMBF
National Contact Point ERC
Garching, 26 November 2013



Excellence as sole criterion

All research fields

Investigator-driven

“Bottom-Up”

European Research Council

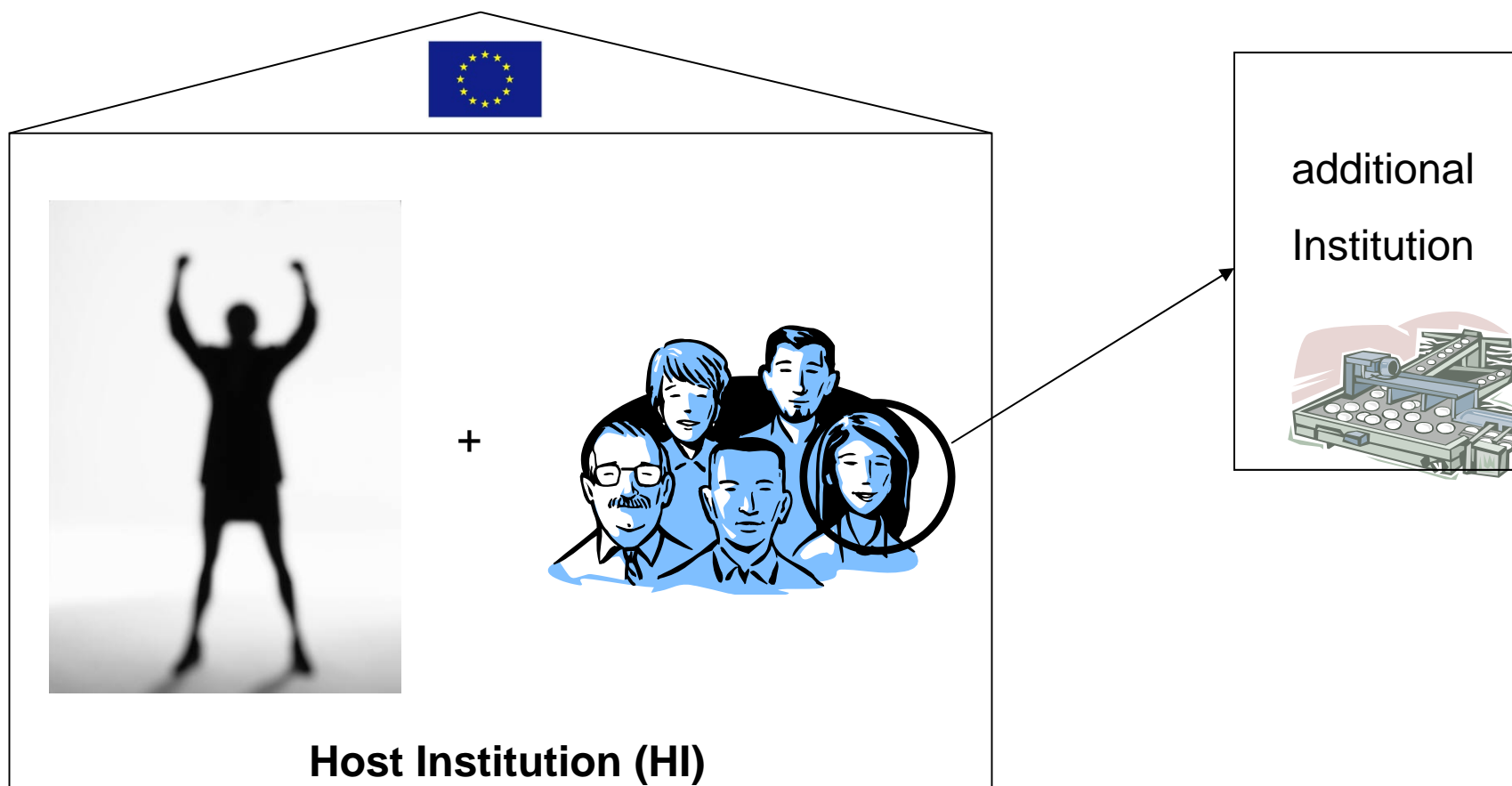


Portability of grants

Groundbreaking
Frontier Research

Scientific Autonomy

Principal Investigator (PI) + Team

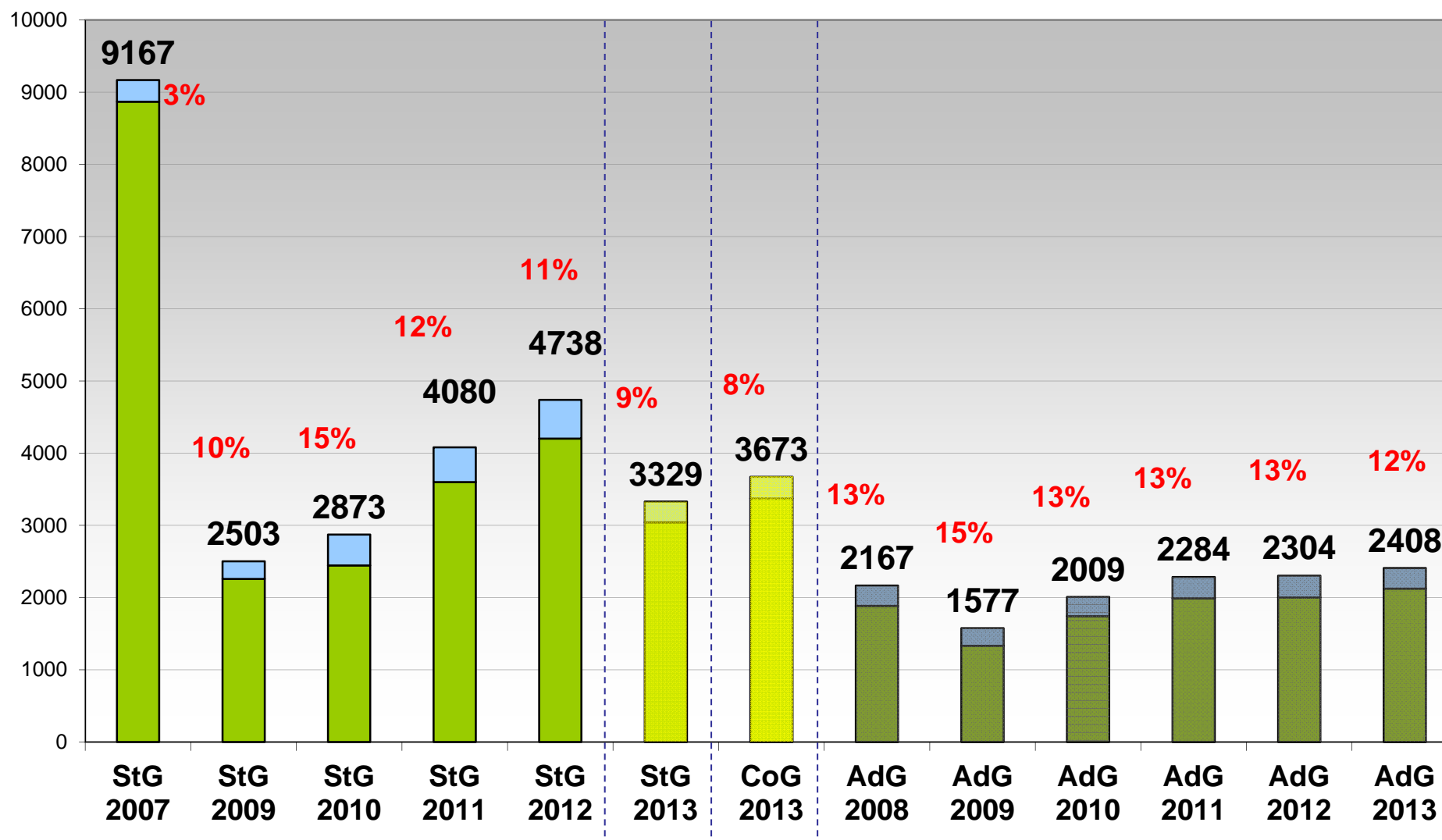


ERC Funding Schemes & Deadlines

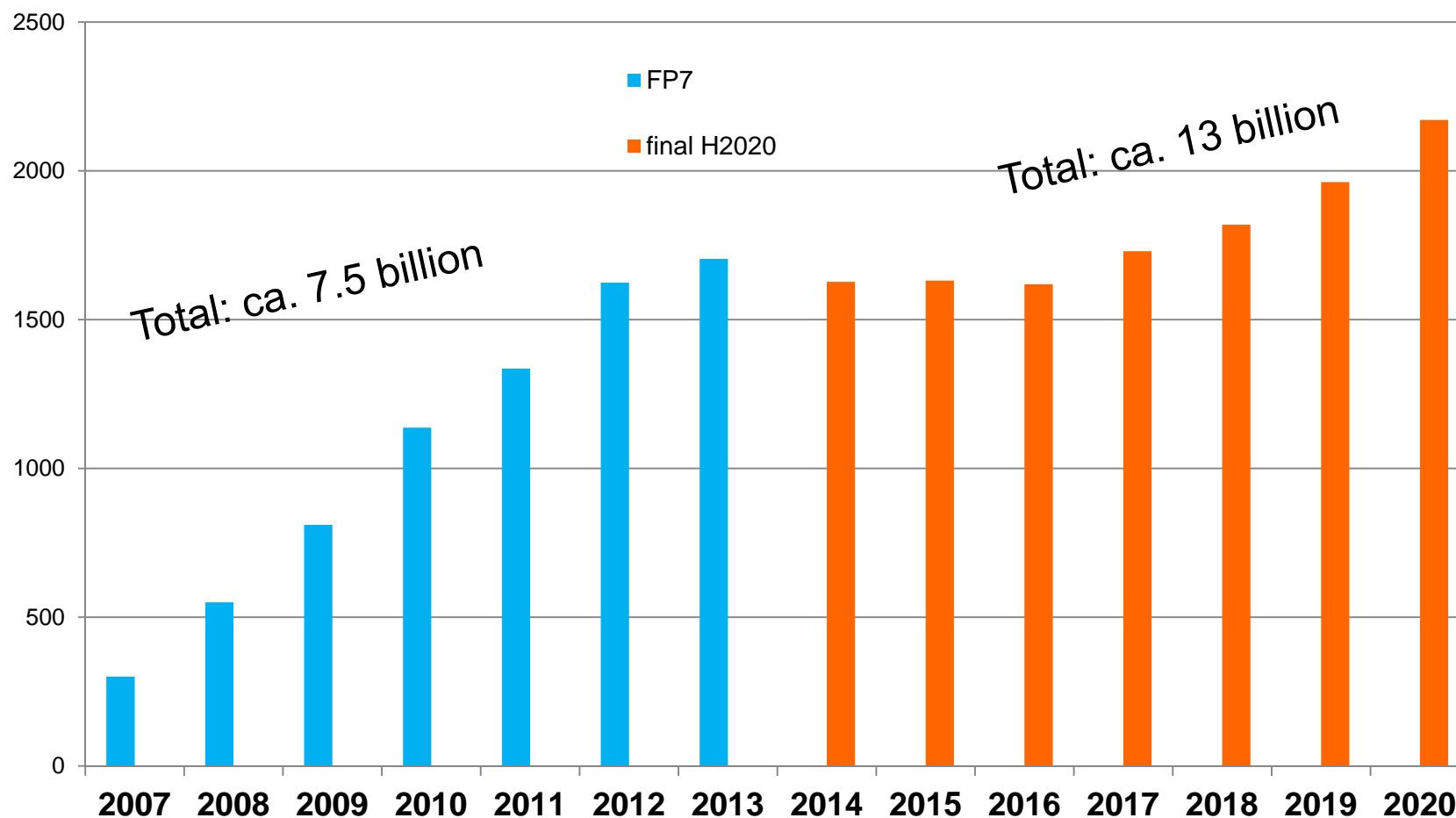
	Starting Grants StG	Consolidator Grants CoG	Advanced Grants AdG	Synergy Grants SyG	Proof of Concept
Target group	Scientists 2-7 years after PhD	Scientists 7-12 years after PhD	established scientists	2-4 scientists as PI's	Successful ERC- Grantees
Max. duration	5 years	5 years	5 years	6 years	12-18 months
Max. budget	1.5 M€ (2 M€)*	2 M€ (2.75 M€)*	2.5 M€ (3.5 M€)*	15 M€	150 000 €
Indicative Deadlines	25 March '14 3 Feb '15	20 May '14 12 March '15	21 Oct '14 2 June '15	No Call in 2014!	April & Oct

() exception possible in case of high equipment costs or PI from Third Country*

ERC Calls in FP7 – submissions and success rates



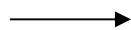
ERC Budget FP7 & Horizon 2020



New Re-application Rules

2014

A

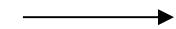


2015

Apply again

2016

B



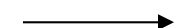
Wait



Apply again

2017

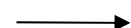
C



Wait



Wait



Apply again

Further Rules

- Only one ERC-proposal per year of Work Programme
- Only one active ERC-grant at time per PI

StG / CoG: eligibility

Different Rules for
Medical Doctors !

2-7 or 7-12 years after first PhD - strict

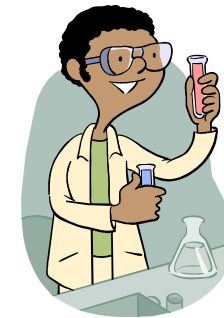
- Date on PhD certificate → publication date of the Call
- Certain **career breaks** accepted
 - birth of children (female researcher): 18 months per child
 - paternity leave: exact number of days taken
 - military/civil service after PhD
 - long-term illness after PhD (>90 days)
 - “clinical training”



Profile of Principle Investigator (PI)

Soft (peer-review evaluation)

- Promising Track Record
- At least **one** (Starting) or **several** (Consolidator) important publications without PhD supervisor



At least 50% of working time on the ERC project

Advanced Grants: eligibility & profile

- No formal requirements!
- Outstanding achievements in the previous 10 years
 - Publications as senior author in renown international journals
 - Conference Invitations, Prizes, Patents

At least 30% working time on the ERC project



Find a project

Project details are published on CORDIS after the negotiation and the signature of the grant agreement between the European Commission and the beneficiaries. This follows the publication of [calls for proposals](#) and the selection procedure where they are selected by the European Union to be partly financed by the Commission.

Search Projects:

Enter search term(s):

Theme*:

- FP7-HEALTH
- FP7-ICT
- FP7-IDEAS**
- FP7-INCO
- FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES

* Keep the control key pressed to make more than one selection

Activity*:

- ERC - ERC
- ERC-AG - Advanced Grants
- ERC-EPS - Exploratory and preparatory studies
- ERC-OA - Other activities

* Keep the control key pressed to

Country*:

- Any Country**
- AUSTRIA
- BELGIUM
- BULGARIA
- CYPRUS
- CZECH REPUBLIC
- DENMARK

Sort order:

„Find a Project“ on CORDIS:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/projects_en.html

Select:
FP7-IDEAS

Select:
StG/AdG and
Panel

Select HI
Country

Funding

Direct Costs – 100% covered

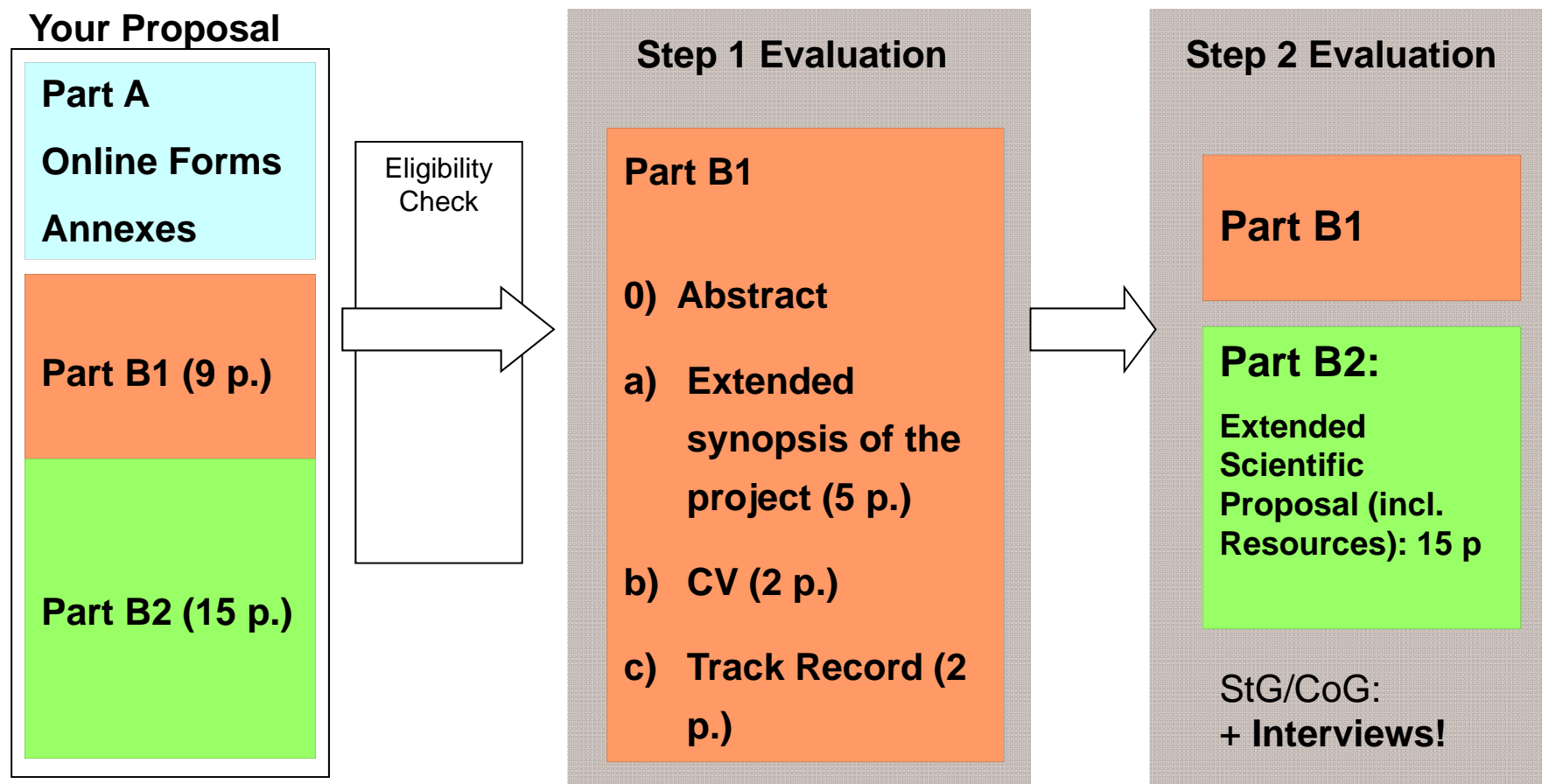
- (part of) PI's salary
- PostDocs, PhD Students, Technicians etc.
- Consumables
- Equipment Costs (depreciation rates)
- Travel Costs
- Publications Costs (incl. OpenAccess)
- Subcontracts
- Other

+ 25% Overhead (to cover indirect costs)



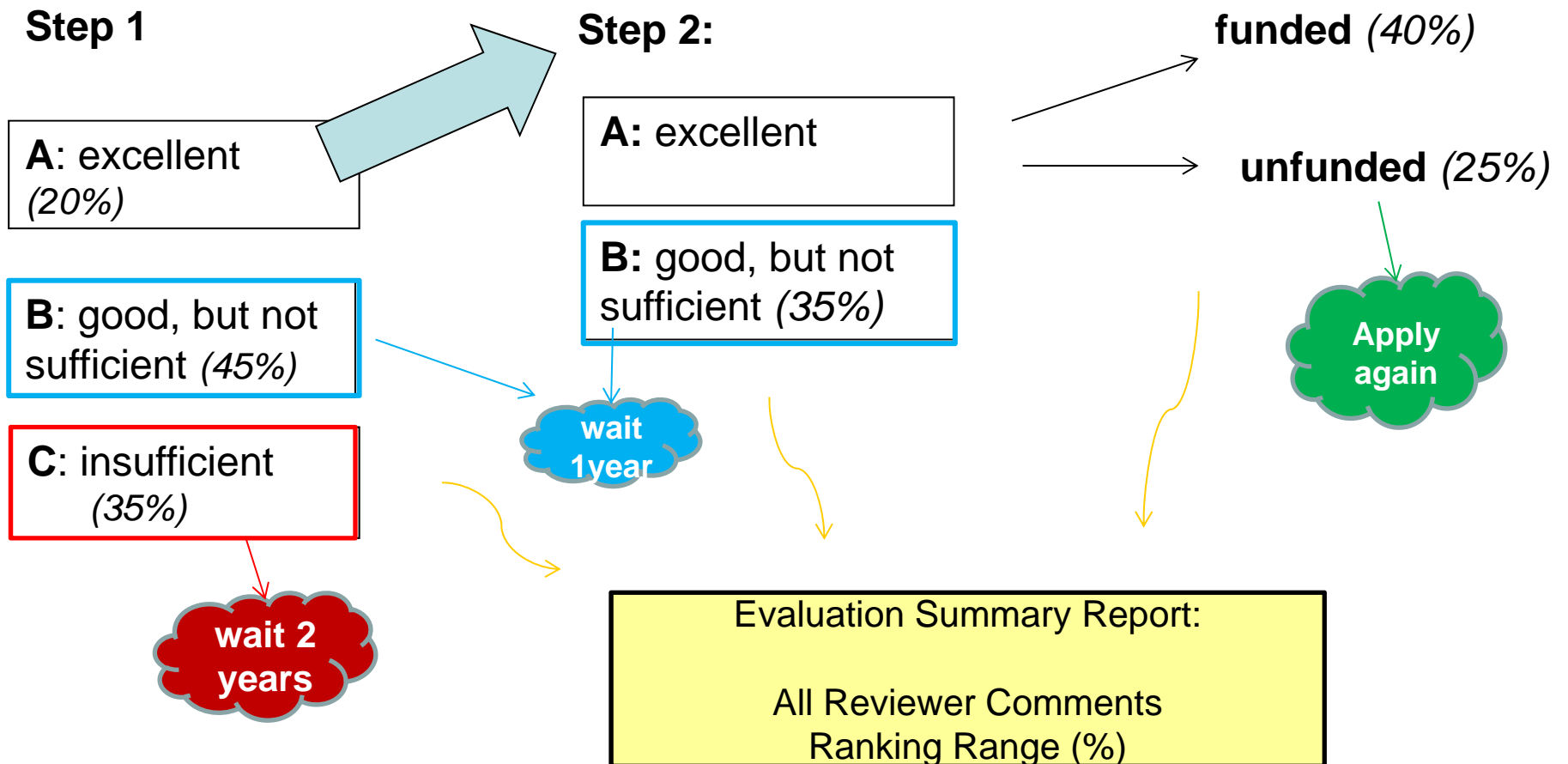
Contact your
Host Institution!!

Application / Evaluation (StG, CoG, AdG)



Proposals in step 2: max. 3x of panel budget

Marking & Feedback



Choosing a topic

- “Propose a project that comes from your heart”
- “Be excited about your project”
- Creative, innovative, feasible
- An important challenge of your field
- Balance between “not ambitious enough” and “too ambitious” – fitting to your profile
- opportunity to define *your* research field
- Unique selling proposition

Choosing the right panel...

- 25 panels
 - 10 Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE)
 - 9 Life Sciences (LS)
 - 6 Social Sciences and Humanities (SH)
- „primary panel“ & if applicable: „secondary panel“
- Check
 - panel descriptors / key words
 - funded projects
 - panel members of previous Calls



Panel Chairs and Members

European Research Council
Scientific Council



Panel Chairs of the ERC Peer Review Panels ERC Starting Grant Panel 2011

The list below includes the panel chairs in the third ERC Starting Grants peer review process, identified and invited by the ERC Scientific Council. There are in total 25 panels, divided between the 3 domains as follows: 9 panels in Life Sciences (LS), 10 panels in Physical Science and Engineering, and 6 panels in Social Sciences and Humanities (SH).

Note to applicants:

This information is given for reasons of transparency. Under no circumstances should panel chairs be contacted by applicants, potential applicants or potential host institutions.

Questions can be addressed to:

- ERC Helpdesk <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?lg=en&pg=enquiries>
- ERC National Contact Points <http://erc.europa.eu/ncp>

LIFE SCIENCES

LS1 Molecular and Structural Biology and Biochemistry:	Prof. Reinhard Jahn
LS2 Genetics, genomics, bioinformatics and systems biology:	Prof. Marja Makarow
LS3 Cellular and Developmental Biology:	Prof. Christer Betsholtz
LS4 Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology:	Prof. Ole H. Petersen
LS5 Neurosciences and neural disorders:	Prof. Andrea Kleinschmidt
LS6 Immunity and infection:	Prof. Maria Grazia Roncarolo
LS7 Diagnostic tools, therapies and public health:	Prof. Hans Bräuner-Osborne
LS8 Evolutionary, population and environmental biology:	Prof. Lars Chittka
LS9 Applied life sciences and biotechnology:	Prof. Francisco Tomás-Barberán

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

SH1 Individuals, institutions and markets:	Prof. Jordi Galí
SH2 Institutions, values, beliefs and behaviour:	Prof. Ronald Rogowski
SH3 Environment and society:	Prof. Mark Rounsevell
SH4 The human mind and its complexity:	Prof. Luciano Fadiga
SH5 Cultures and cultural production:	Prof. Simon Goldhill
SH6 The study of the human past:	Prof. Jane Burbank

DOMAIN PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

PE1 Mathematical foundations:	Prof. Janusz Grabowski
PE2 Fundamental constituents of matter:	Prof. Sune Svanberg
PE3 Condensed matter in physics:	Prof. Yvan Bruynseraede
PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical sciences:	Prof. Philippe Sautet
PE5 Material and synthesis:	Prof. Jeffrey Alan Hubbell
PE6 Computer science and informatics:	Prof. Stefan Jähnichen
PE7 Systems and communication engineering:	Prof. Palle Jeppesen
PE8 Products and process engineering:	Prof. Ulrich Stimming
PE9 Universe sciences:	Prof. Georges Meylan
PE10 Earth system science:	Prof. Daniel Conley

- Names of panel members of previous Calls:
<http://www.eubuero.de/erc-dokumente.htm#reviewer>
- NB: in 2014 new composition of StG and CoG panels
- Names published after Call evaluation
- Names of Panel Chairs published before Deadline

Indicative Timeline Starting Grants 2014

March

June/July

Oct/Nov

Nov/Dec

Dec-March

Deadline

Invitation to
interview

Interview

acceptance

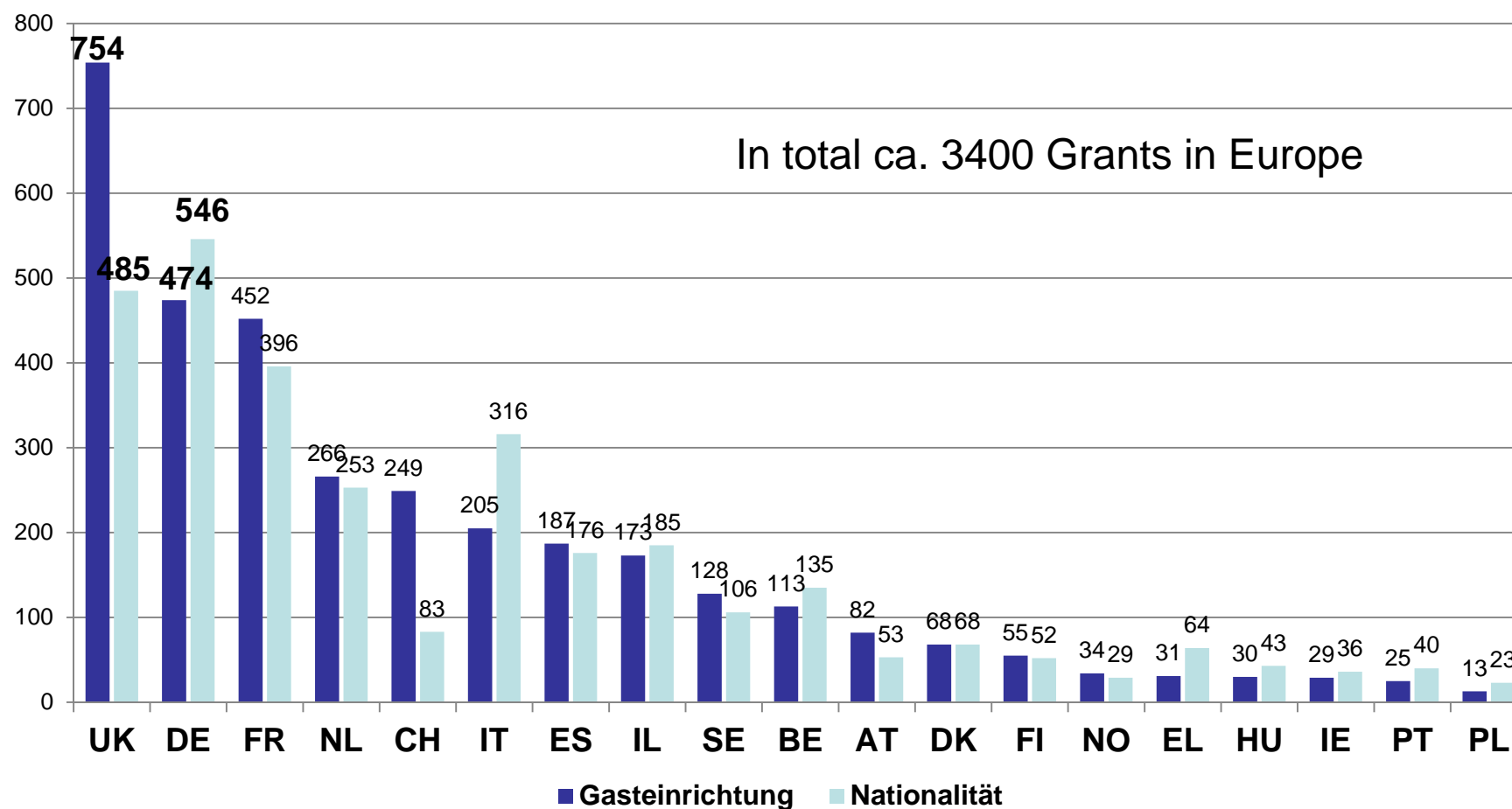
Grant
preparation

rejection Step-1

rejection Step-2

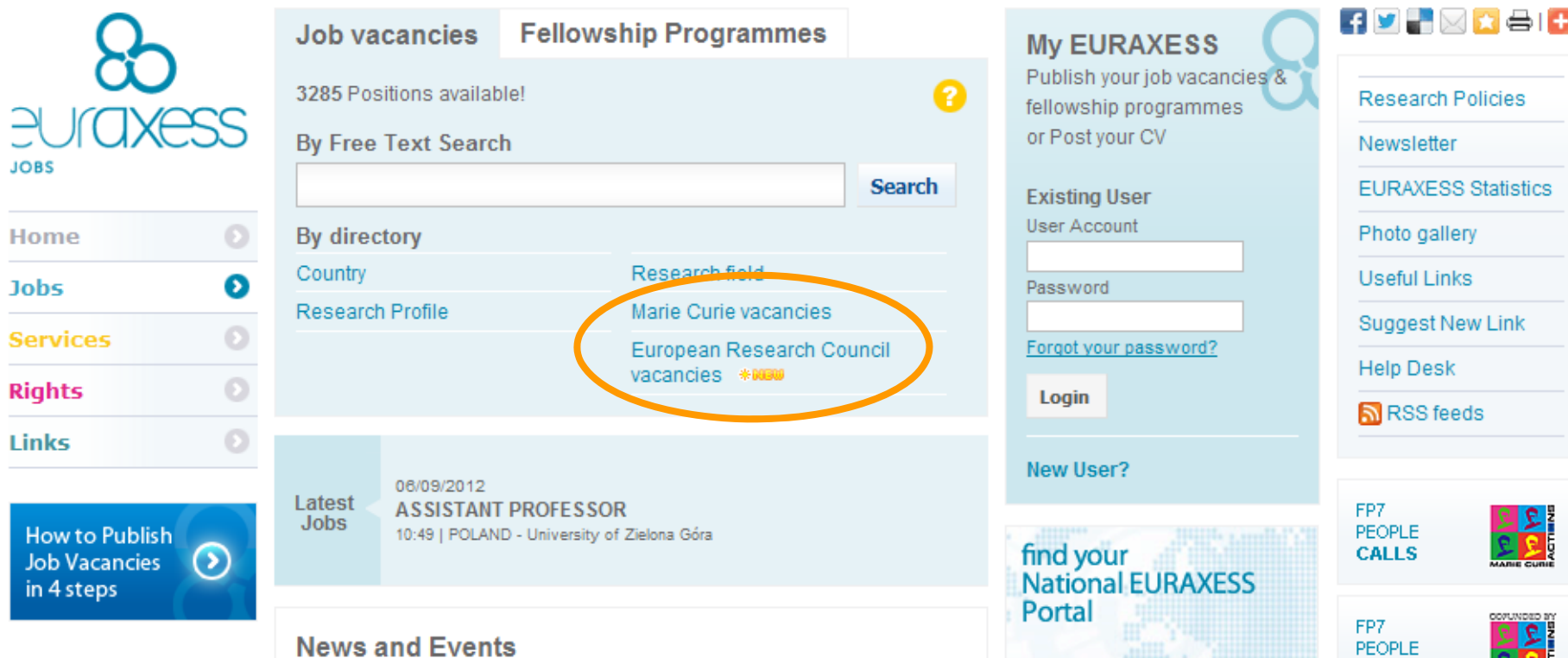
Project start date: latest 6 months after
invitation to grant preparation

FP7 ERC StG/AdG-Grants: Host Institution & Nationality



Source: ECORDA database as of June 2013; only signed grant agreements; most successful countries

Job Search / Recruiting Team member



The screenshot shows the EURAXESS Jobs website interface. On the left is a navigation menu with links: Home, Jobs (highlighted), Services, Rights, and Links. Below the menu is a blue box titled 'How to Publish Job Vacancies in 4 steps'. The main content area has two tabs: 'Job vacancies' and 'Fellowship Programmes'. Under 'Job vacancies', it states '3285 Positions available!' and offers a 'By Free Text Search' with a search bar and a 'Search' button. Below this is a 'By directory' section with a table listing search criteria: Country, Research field, and Research Profile. The 'Research field' row is highlighted with an orange oval, showing 'Marie Curie vacancies' and 'European Research Council vacancies'. A 'Latest Jobs' section displays a job posting for an 'ASSISTANT PROFESSOR' at the University of Zielona Góra. On the right, there is a 'My EURAXESS' section for publishing job vacancies or posting a CV, with fields for 'Existing User' (User Account and Password) and a 'Login' button. Below this is a 'New User?' link. At the bottom right, there are links for 'Research Policies', 'Newsletter', 'EURAXESS Statistics', 'Photo gallery', 'Useful Links', 'Suggest New Link', 'Help Desk', and 'RSS feeds'. Social media icons are at the top right, and logos for 'FP7 PEOPLE CALLS' and 'FP7 PEOPLE' are at the bottom right.

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

Further Information

- Homepage National Contact Point: www.nks-erc.de
 - English: <http://www.erc-germany.de>
 - German: <http://www.nks-erc.de>
- Newsletter: <http://www.eubuero.de/newsletter.htm>
- ERC-Homepage <http://erc.europa.eu>
- Horizon 2020: <http://www.horizont2020.de>





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Additional Slides



Proposal Writing - Contents

- State clearly your objectives on page 1
- What is the **international** state-of-the art in your field? Where are the gaps?
- What will be changed after you successfully completed your project? What is your vision?
- Why is your project new and unconventional?
- High-Risk / High-Gain Balance
- Check the evaluation criteria, i.e. with help of colleagues

[illegible]

Readability

- Paragraphs
- Concise title, headings, sub-headings
- Bullet points
- Format **important statements** in bold
- Use tables, graphics, diagrams (readable in black/white)
- Methodology: time chart, responsibility of team members etc.
- short, simple sentences



Abstract

- Groundbreaking Nature of Research
- Frontier Research: new & visionary
- Impact on research field / society
- State of the Art vs Knowledge Gaps
- Risks / Challenges
- Interdisciplinarity (if applicable)

A successful proposal starts with a
telling abstract!

B2: The Scientific Proposal (max. 15 pages)

- Respect the given structure:
 - a) State of the art and objectives
 - b) Methodology
 - c) Resources (incl. project costs)
 - d) Ethical and Security Sensitivity Issues (Tabelle)
- Respect formal parameters
 - Times New Roman
 - Size: at least 11
 - Single line-spacing
 - Margins: 2 cm side, 1,5 bottom

Use B1/B2 templates!

a. Extended Synopsis (max. 5 pages)

- Assessed in Step 2 (evaluators have no access to Part B2!)
- Short stand-alone version of your project description
 - Ground-breaking vs. state of the art
 - Arousing curiosity
 - All relevant aspects (incl. feasibility)
 - Including few references to key literature (page limit!)
- Understandable for non-specialists

b. Curriculum Vitae (max. 2 pages)

- **Standard Academic Record**
 - Clear distinction (i.e. education, work experience / positions, memberships, supervision / teaching ...)
 - Optional: Number of children / marital status / contact details
 - **Not:** hobbies / kindergarten / language courses / partnership details
- **Funding ID**
 - Aim: see what you have achieved / prevent double funding / see you have at least 50% time for ERC project
 - Distinguish: 'previous funding', 'current funding', 'ongoing applications'
 - List project title & topic, duration, budget, role of PI
- Mention significant career breaks & unconventional paths

Section b : Curriculum Vita (max 2 pages)

Personal Information

<i>Firstname- Lastname</i>	
<i>Gender</i>	
<i>Date and Place of Birth</i>	
<i>Current laboratory address</i>	
<i>Website</i>	

Education and Degrees

<i>Years</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Field of study</i>
	PhD		
	Master		
	...		

Research Career

<i>Years</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Field of research</i>
	present		

**Model CV's
for all three
Domains
(PE, LS, SH)**

**Guidance,
no
obligation!**

Output in numbers

- articles in peer-reviewed international journals :
- invited presentations at international conferences :

Summary of Research Interests and main Achievements

Funding ID

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Period</i>

Supervision

Teaching

Administration and Management

Organisation of International Conferences

Dinstinctions and Awards

**Model CV's
for all three
Domains
(PE, LS, SH)**

**Guidance,
no
obligation!**

c. Early Achievements Track Record (max. 2 pages)

- Highlight **best 5** (StG) or **best 10** (CoG) publications
- Indicate number of citations (if applicable)
- Distinguish publications with & without PhD supervisor
- Don't forget: conferences, patents, prizes and awards!
- „Examples of leadership in industrial innovation“
- Add: total number of publications and h-index

Cost category			TOTAL EURO <i>(please ensure that these values match the figures you provided in A3 submission form)</i>
Direct costs	Personnel	Principal Investigator ¹	
		Senior staff	
		Post docs	
		PhD students	
		Other	
	i. Total Direct personnel costs (Euro)		0
	Other direct costs	Equipment	
		Consumables	
		Travel	
		Publications, etc.	
		Other	
	ii. Total Other direct costs (Euro)		0
A: Total Direct costs (i+ii), Euro			0
B: Indirect costs (up to 25% of total direct costs), Euro			0.00%
C: Subcontracting costs (no overheads), Euro			
Total estimated eligible costs (A+B+C), Euro			0
Requested EU contribution, Euro			



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Budget Table

Resources - Justification

- Explain roles and (required) profiles of **team members**
- Explain your **own role** and your time commitment
- Explain **need of equipment**, intensity of its planned use
- Explain what resources are already **available at your institution**
- In case of “additional institutions”: explain scientific added value

Non-justified costs can be reduced from
your budget by reviewers!

Ethical Issues

- Ethical Issues Table (all applicants)
- B2 Ethical Issues Annex, in case of
 - Research on Human Embryo/ Foetus
 - Research on Humans / Informed Consent
 - Privacy
 - Research on Animals
 - Research Involving Developing Countries
 - Dual Use (potential military/terrorist application)
 - Environment

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ethics_en.html