

Introduction to EU funding opportunities for PhD students and early Post-docs

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We are in
charge of six
Max Planck
Institutes:

MPI for Astrophysics

MPI for extraterrestrial
Physics

MPI of Physics

MPI for Psychiatry

MPI of Quantum
Optics

MPI for Ornithology



Our main tasks:

Information about contents of programmes and funding schemes

Analysis of your project idea – find the right funding scheme

Assistance with proposal preparation

Proposal check

Support in project management

Organisation of events and workshops

Question upon question...

**Why is research
funded at a
European level?**

**How can I benefit
from EU funding?**

**How does the
European
Union fund
research?**

Why...?

How...?

How can I
benefit
from EU
funding?

1. Some basic knowledge

2. FP7 „People“ / Marie Curie Actions

2.1 Marie Curie Actions – Introduction

2.2 Marie Curie Fellowships

2.3 Marie Curie Career Integration Grant

3. FP7 „Ideas“ / European Research Council (ERC)

3.1 ERC – Objectives and Grants

3.2 ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant

4. EU proposal structure and submission

Why funding for research on a European level?



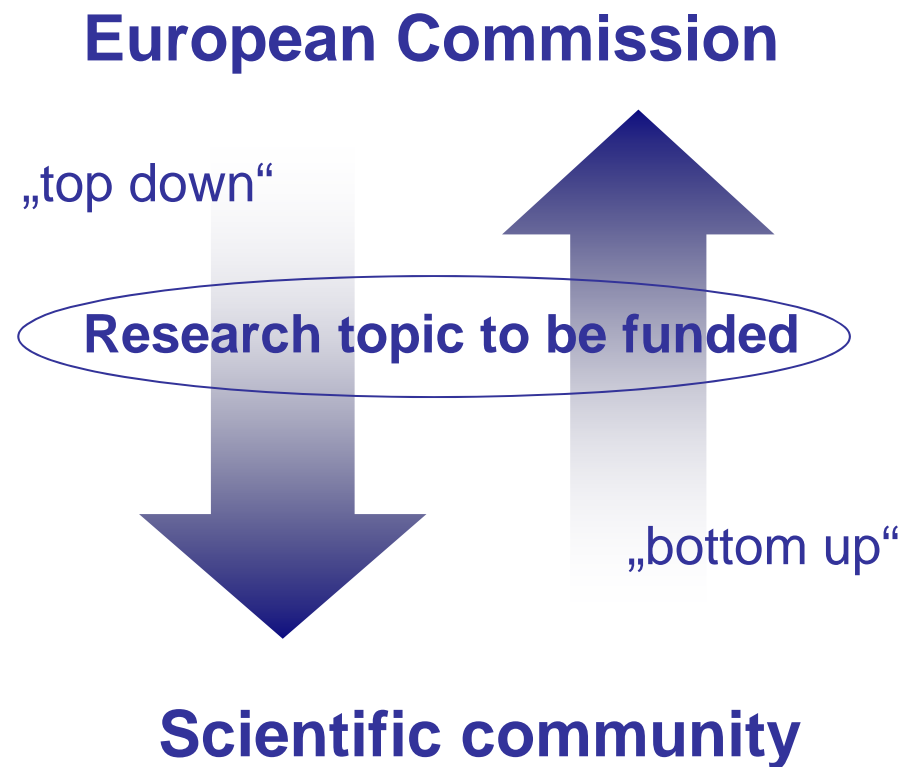
European Research Area (ERA)



European Research Area

How does the EU fund research?

Definition of research topic: bottom up vs. top down



How does the EU fund research?

Applicant: individual actions vs. host-driven actions

➔ All actions involve a coordinator – at least one „participant“

Individual Actions



Individual researcher

„Host-driven“ Actions

Participant 2

Participant 5

Participant 3

Participant 6

Participant 4

Participant x

Consortium

Host institution = Coordinator = Participant 1

- submits the proposal
- is contractor with the EU
- administers the money
- submits reports to the EU



jointly

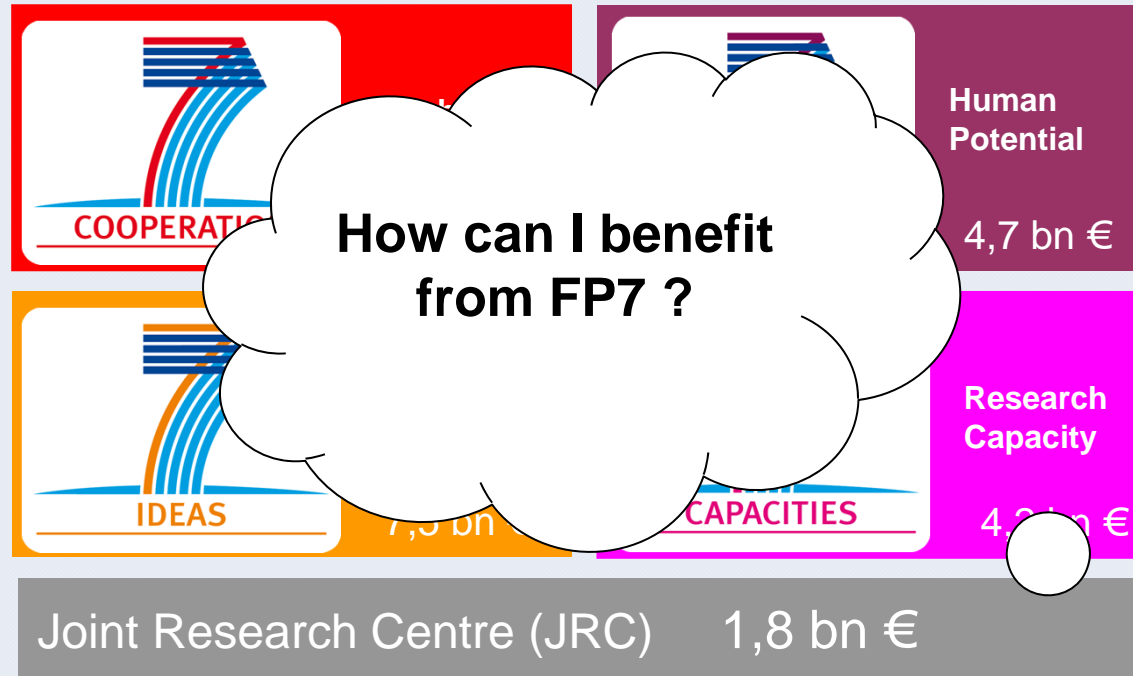
jointly

How does the EU fund research? Research Framework Programmes





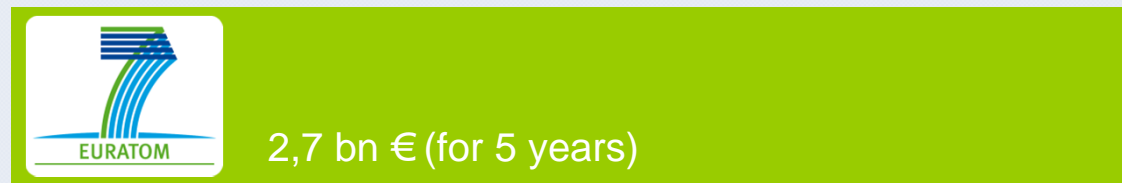
EC Framework programme



Total

53,3 bn €

EURATOM Framework programme







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Why should I benefit from EU funding?

- EU framework programmes for research (like FP7)
offer **many individual actions** for post-docs
 - EU funding can boost your career (you compete on
a European level!)
- => be **proactive** and **plan your career** well ahead:
...time flies!!




EC Framework programme

	Collaborative Research 32,4 bn €		Human Potential 4,7 bn €
	Frontier Research 7,5 bn €		Research Capacity 4,2 bn €
Joint Research Centre (JRC) 1,8 bn €			

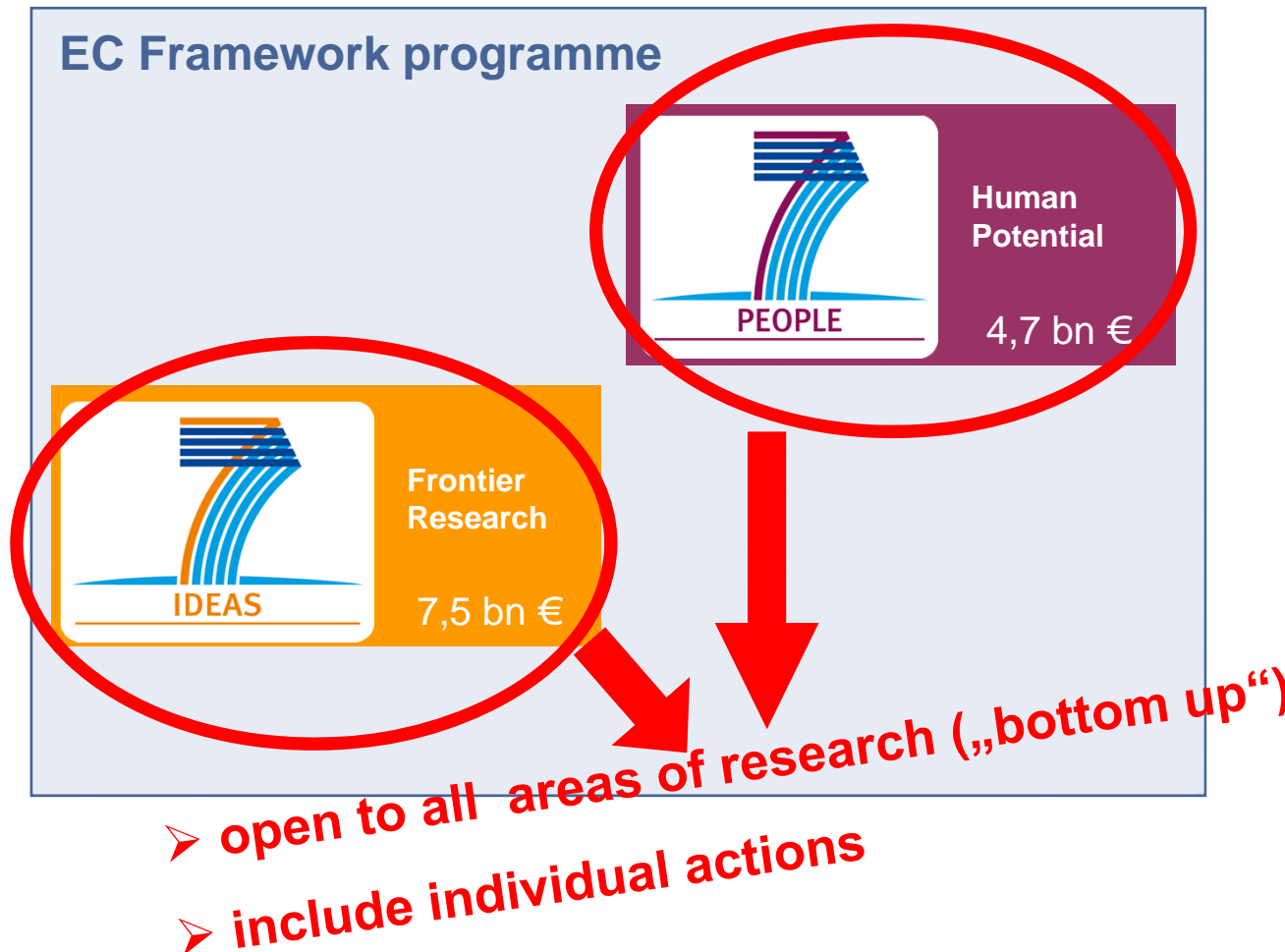
Total
53,3 bn €

EURATOM Framework programme

	2,7 bn € (for 5 years)
---	-------------------------------

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Grants and fellowships in FP7 Specific Programmes





Specific Programme PEOPLE = Marie Curie Actions





Overall strategic objective:
Make Europe more attractive for researchers.

„The Specific Programme [People] aims to strengthen, quantitatively and qualitatively, the human potential in research and technology in Europe, by stimulating people to take up the profession of a researcher, encouraging European researchers to stay in Europe, and attracting to Europe the best researchers from the entire world.“

(PEOPLE work programme 2012, p. 4)



Early-stage researchers:

- must be [...] in the first four years (FTE*) of their research careers and have not yet been awarded a doctoral degree.
- ➡ starting at the date of obtaining a degree which would formally entitle them to embark on a doctorate

Experienced researchers:

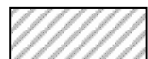
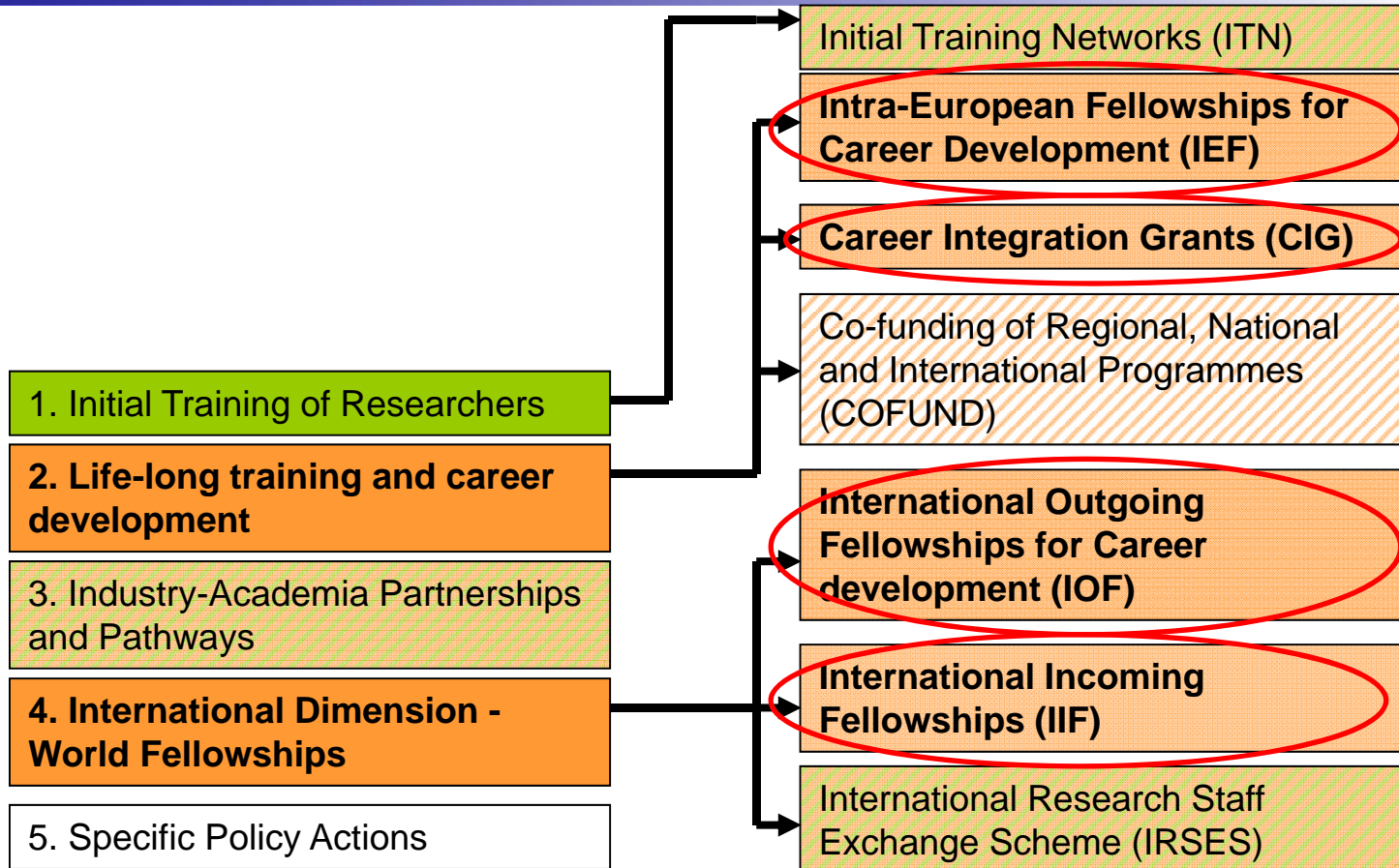
- must at the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals [...] be in possession of a doctoral degree
OR
- have at least four years (FTE) of research experience

*full-time equivalent



„At the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals, [...] researchers **must not have resided or carried out their main activity** (work, studies, etc) **in the country of their host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference date**. ~~Compulsory national service and/or short stay~~ such as ESO... are not taken into account. ~~As far as international~~ **European interest organisations** or international organisations are concerned, this rule does not apply to the hosting of eligible researchers, however the appointed researcher must not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference deadline for submission of proposals [...], in the same appointing organisation.“

(PEOPLE work programme 2012, p. 8)



= proposal submitted by one or several organisations („host-driven actions“)



= proposal submitted by an individual researcher in conjunction with the host organisation („researcher-driven actions“)

„Host-driven actions“



What is my research experience (according to FP7 definition)?

I'm in the first four years of research career

I'm holding a PhD or I have at least four years of research experience

„Early-stage researcher“

„Experienced researcher“

Initial Training Network (ITN)
4 years

Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP)
3-4 years

International Research Staff Exchange (IRSES)*
2-4 years

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)

Call expected to be published:
13 July 2012 deadline:
November 2012 (tbc)

Call expected to be published: October 2012
deadline: January 2013 (tbc)

Call expected to be published: 13 July 2012
deadline: 17 January 2013 (tbc)

Call expected to be published: 13 July 2012
deadline: 5 December 2012 (tbc)



You can find positions funded through these actions on

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

*Eligible Third countries (2012): Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, Georgia, India, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Palestinian-administrated areas, Rep. of Korea, Russia, South Africa, Tunisia, Syrian Arab Rep. Ukraine, United States



ITN: improve career prospects for young researchers in transnational network

IAPP: staff exchange in research projects between public and private sector

IRSES: staff exchange in research projects between European countries and Third countries

COFUND: cofunding of existing exchange programmes



Participation in Marie Curie host-driven actions

...at MPA:

- ITN **CosmoComp**: Pan-European training in computational cosmology: modelling cosmic structures

- IRSES **LACEGA**
European Galaxies

...at MPE:

- ITN **RoPACS**: R

European Commission > CORDIS > FP7

Home | News | Funding | Projects | Results | Partners | Go local

Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

Search all CORDIS

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):

Project Acronym:

* You can search by individual terms or project acronyms from this page. Other search options are available on the advanced search page

Theme*:

FP7-KBBE
FP7-NMP
FP7-PEOPLE
FP7-POTENTIAL
FP7-REGIONAL
FP7-SECURITY

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



Find a position in a Marie Curie host-driven action:

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

The screenshot shows the EURAXESS website interface. At the top, there's a blue header with the European Commission logo and the text 'European Commission EURAXESS'. Below this, a navigation bar includes links like 'A to Z', 'Site Map', 'Search on EUROPA', 'About this site', 'Contact', 'Important legal notice', 'Analytics Disclaimer', and 'English (en)'. The main content area is titled 'Job vacancies' and 'Fellowships'. A search bar with the text 'By Free Text Search' and a 'Search' button is present. Below the search bar, the 'Search Results' section shows '498 results found (1-15 Displayed)', '- 294 jobs advertisement published on this portal', and '- 194 links to external sources'. A pagination bar shows 'First', 'Previous', a series of numbers (1-11), 'Next', and 'Last'. Two job listings are visible: '8 Contracts for Post Doctoral and Senior Positions' and 'PhD position - Initial Training Network TreatPolyQ - Lab H. Tricoire, Paris'. On the right side, there's a 'Refine By' sidebar with filters for 'Research field' (Neurosciences), 'Country' (Austria (3), Belgium (21), Croatia (1), Cyprus (2), Denmark (20)), and 'Publishing Organisation' (ABB Sverige (1), Academic Positions (24), Approach People Recruitment (1)).

Individual funding schemes



„Experienced researcher“

...of any age, any nationality...

I'm currently working in a MS/AS and I would like to work in another MS/AS

Intra-European Fellowship (IEF)

1-2 years

I'm currently working in a MS/AS and I would like to work in a third country

International Outgoing Fellowship (IOF)

1-2 years + 1 year reintegration phase in MS/AS

I'm currently working in a third country and I would like to work in a MS/AS

International Incoming Fellowships (IIF)

1-2 years+ 1 year reintegration phase if ICPC****

I will move to a European country because I have been offered a (permanent) position there

Career Integration Grant (CIG)

up to 4 years

Deadline: 16 August 2012, 17:00hrs Brussels time

Next cut-off date: 18 September 2012, 17:00hrs Brussels time

*EU Member State

**Associated countries to FP7 (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway, Moldova, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey)

***countries which are neither EU Member States nor Associated countries

**** International Cooperation Partner Countries (cf. PEOPLE work programme, Annex 1.1)



Objectives:

- support the career development or restart through competence diversification (multi- or interdisciplinary expertise, intersectoral experience, complementary skills...)
- reach and/or reinforce a position of professional maturity/independence
- Duration: 1-2 years
- the research project should help to significantly advance the career and should not represent a temporary solution
- Individual applies together with the host institution
- one call/year, deadline mid-August

Individual funding schemes



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Objective:

reinforce the international dimension of your research career and advance your career in Europe towards professional maturity and independence: acquire new competences (multi- or interdisciplinary expertise, intersectoral experience, complementary skills...)

- Duration: 1-2 years outgoing phase + 1 year reintegration phase in MS/AS (mandatory)
- Third country nationals (not from EU Member States or Associated States) are eligible to apply if they have resided and carried out their main activity in MS/AS for at least the 5 years prior to the submission deadline
- Mobility rule applies to the outgoing host organisation
- Individual applies together with the return host institution
- one call/year, deadline mid-August

Individual funding schemes



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***countries which are neither EU Member States nor Associated countries

**** International Cooperation Partner Countries (cf. PEOPLE work programme, Annex 1.1)



Objectives:

- reinforce scientific excellence of EU MS/AS
- share knowledge and develop mutually beneficial research cooperations
- Duration: 1-2 years + possible one-year return phase for nationals from ICPC countries: support (flat rate of 15.000 EUR) for the application of the acquired knowledge in the country of origin
- Individual applies together with the host institution
- one call/year, deadline mid-August



- Monthly living allowance * country correction coefficient
- Monthly mobility allowance * country correction coefficient
- Contribution to the training expenses of eligible researchers
- Contribution to overheads * country correction coefficient



You can find the applicable rates in Annex 3 (p. 71) in the 2012 People work programme.

Individual funding schemes



„Experienced researcher“

...of any age, any nationality...

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***countries which are neither EU Member States nor Associated countries

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Objective:

- improve the career prospects of researchers who have been offered a (permanent) position in Europe after a mobility period
- host organisation must offer an employment contract for at least the duration of the grant
- you cannot have benefited from a FP6 or FP7 Reintegration grant before
- funding: fixed-amount contribution to the employment and/or research costs of 25.000 EUR/year
- two cut-off dates per year (spring/autumn)





The Specific Programme IDEAS is implemented by the **European Research Council (ERC)**: the first pan-European funding agency for Frontier Research

Frontier Research: research in emerging areas which can cover elements of both basic and applied research. Projects are „high-risk high-gain“.

Objective: reinforce excellence, dynamism and creativity in European research by attracting researchers to Europe



Funding Schemes

- **ERC Advanced Investigator Grant:** attract and reward established independent research leaders
- **ERC Synergy Grant:** support for groups of 2 – 4 Principal Investigators and their teams
- **ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant:** attract and retain the next generation of independent research leaders
- **ERC Proof of concept**
support for ideas arising from Starting Grant/Advanced Grant projects => transfer into marketable innovation



- all fields of research are eligible => “**bottom up**”
- **scientific excellence** as the sole criterion for selection
- PI applies together with **host institution in EU MS/AS**
- host institution commits to conditions of independence for PI
- “**portability**” of grants
- Grant covers 100% of total eligible costs + up to 20% for indirect costs



- Objective: improve career opportunities and help to gain independence
- **funding** of up to 1.5 Mio. EUR, in exceptional cases up to 2 Mio. EUR
- **duration:** up to 5 years
- calls are published once a year
- next call expected to be published in **summer 2012** with deadlines in **autumn 2012**

⇒ please consult the work programme/Guide for Applicants to be published this summer for the applicable rules



Am I eligible?

- any age, any nationality
- **career stage:** starting or consolidating your own independent research team/programme
- **“time window”:** first PhD at least 2 and less than 12 years prior to the publication date of the call for proposals (extensions possible)

Am I competitive?

- at least one **important publication** without the participation of your PhD supervisor
- “promising track-record of early achievements”

Structure of an application (IEF) I

A – Information on the proposal, the researcher, the host, the budget (forms)

Always use the latest version of work programme and Guide for Applicants which are available once the call is published!!!

The image displays a collage of various EU research application forms, including 'Proposal Submission Form', 'Marie Curie Fellowship', and 'Budget' forms. A red banner across the center reads: "The EU-Office can help you to fill in these forms!".

On the left, there is a logo for 'PEOPLE' featuring a stylized rainbow and a 'MARIE CURIE' logo with four portraits in colored squares.

The forms shown include:

- Proposal Submission Form**: Includes fields for 'Proposed Number', 'Proposed Title', 'Proposed Start Date', 'Proposed End Date', 'Proposed Budget', and 'Proposed Personnel'.
- Marie Curie Fellowship**: Includes fields for 'Country', 'Internet homepage', 'Person in charge', 'Family name', 'Title', 'Position in the organisation', 'Department/Faculty/Institute/Laboratory', 'Is the address different from the legal address', 'Street name', 'Town', 'Country', and 'Phone 2'.
- Budget**: Includes a table for 'Full-time person-months' and 'Type B Fixed-amount Fellowship (Y/N)'.



B – Scientific proposal

Always use the latest version of work programme and Guide for Applicants which are available once the call is published!!!



Part B		Max. pages
Part B1	Research and Technological Quality	8
Part B2	Training	2

The EU-Office can check your proposal and assist you with the non-scientific parts!

Part B5	Impact	4
Part B6	Ethical issues	no max. length

- ➡ **You can find a detailed structure in the Guide for Applicants. Please use the electronic template which is available in EPSS once you have registered.**
- ➡ **You can nominate up to three „referees“ via EPSS once you have registered.**

Evaluation of fellowship (IEF)



- criteria depend on the funding scheme and are linked to its objectives
- scores: 0 (fails) – 5 (excellent)

IEF criteria and their weightings + thresholds:

- **S & T quality**: weighting: 25%, threshold: 3
- **Training**: weighting: 15%, threshold: 3
- **Researcher**: weighting: 25%, threshold: 4
- **Implementation**: weighting: 15%
- **Impact**: weighting: 20%, threshold: 3.5



Publication of call: 13 March 2012

Deadline: 16 August 2012

Evaluation of proposals: October 2012

Evaluation summary report (ESR) sent to proposal coordinators („initial information letter“): end of Nov 2012

➤ check

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

➤ **Invitation letter** to successful coordinators: Dec 2012

Contract „negotiations“: from January 2013

Earliest start of projects: from March 2013



Evaluation Summary Report (IEF)

Evaluation Summary Report

Call : FP7-PEOPLE-2009-IEF

Funding scheme :
 Proposal number :
 Proposal acronym :
 Proposal title :
 Duration (month) : 24

N.	Proposer name	Country	Type	Total cost (€)	%	Grant requested (€)	%
1	MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FÖRDERUNG DER WISSENSCHAFTEN E.V.	DE					
Total :							

Abstract :

Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships (IEF)

Criterion 1. S&T QUALITY (award)

(Threshold 3.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.70

Weight: 0.25

Strengths:

Issues to be addressed when assigning an overall mark for this criterion:

- Scientific/technological quality, including any interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary aspects of the proposal.
- Research methodology
- Originality and innovative nature of the project, and relationship to the 'state of the art' of research in the field
- Timeliness and relevance of the project
- Host scientific expertise in the field
- Quality of the group/supervisors

Please use the following structure in your comments to this criterion:

- Strengths of the proposal (in bullet point format);
- Weaknesses of the proposal (in bullet point format);
- Overall comments (reflecting the relative importance of the strength and weaknesses above mentioned) (copy the text above in the comment box)

Criterion 2. TRAINING (award)

(Threshold 3.00/5.00)

Mark: 4.50

Weight: 0.15

Strengths:

Page 1 of 4



Research & Innovation
Participant Portal

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Participant Portal > FP7 Calls > People

Home | FP7 Calls | FP7 Doc | My Organisations

Latest Info | Cooperation | Ideas | People | Capacities | Euratom | Search Calls

PEOPLE

Open | Closed | Forthcoming

Confunded Calls

- Marie-Curie Actions / 3 open calls

Marie-Curie Actions (back to top)

Call for proposals

Show 10 entries

Call Identifier	Call Title	Publication Date	Cut-off Dates	Deadline
FP7-PEOPLE-2012-CIG	MARIE CURIE CAREER INTEGRATION GRANTS (CIG)	2011-10-20	2012-03-06	
FP7-PEOPLE-2012-EURAXESS-II	Trans-national Collaboration among EURAXESS members on topics related to the Innovation Union	2012-01-18		2012-04-18
FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IAPP	MARIE CURIE INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIPS AND PATHWAYS (IAPP)	2011-10-19		2012-04-19

Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries

- select call on
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/people&state=open>
 - ➡ *Information package*: work programme, Guide for Applicants
 - ➡ *Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS)*: registration mandatory for proposal preparation/submission
 - ➡ *Additional documents*: evaluation results
- submit well before the deadline (17:00:00 Brussels time)!!



- Horizon 2020: Framework programme for research and innovation 2014-2020
- Proposed structure:
 - Excellent Science
 - ERC
 - Marie Curie Actions
 - other actions
 - Industrial Leadership
 - Societal Challenges

General information

Calls in FP7 on Participant Portal

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls#

German portal to FP7

www.forschungsrahmenprogramm.de

Koordinierungsstelle EG der Wissenschaftsorganisationen (KoWi)

www.kowi.de

EU-office of Federal Ministry of Education and Research

www.eubuero.de

Website Research of European Commission

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm>

FP7 – Find a project

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

Mobility in Europe

Marie Curie Actions on CORDIS

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/mariecurieactions/home_en.html

EURAXESS-Portal

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

EURAXESS Germany

http://www.euraxess.de/portal/home_en.html

German National Contact Point Mobility

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/3097.html>

European Research Council

Website of ERC

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

ERC on CORDIS

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ideas/home_en.html

German National Contact Point ERC

<http://www.eubuero.de/erc.htm>

Other funding opportunities

Research Professional

<http://www.researchprofessional.com/>

DAAD Stipendiendatenbank

http://www.daad.de/ausland/foerderungsmoeglichkeiten/stipendien_datenbank/00658.de.html



Information for MPA, MPE, MPP:

- **Kathrin Zahr, Tel. 32905-231**
kathrin.zahr@mpq.mpg.de
- **link on internal webpage to EU-office website:**
www.mpq.mpg.de/euburo-bayern
- **Information corner in AstroBibliothek**

»Forschen in Europa: Nationale und europäische Forschungsförderung«

– Informationsveranstaltung zur Nachwuchsförderung –

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, 27. März 2012

Campus Großhadern, Haus F, Butenandtstr 13, 81377 München

ab 9:30	Hörsaal 1		
	Eröffnung der Veranstaltung und Begrüßung		
	Prof. Dr. Beate Kellner, Vizepräsidentin für Forschung an der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München Dr. Jens-Peter Gaul, Leiter der Kooperationsstelle EU der Wissenschaftsorganisationen (KoWi) Dr. Martin Lange, Europäische Kommission, GD Bildung und Kultur, Marie Curie-Maßnahmen, Policy Officer „Die Marie Curie-Maßnahmen in Horizon 2020“		
ab 10:30	Deutsche und europäische Förderorganisationen stellen ihre Programme für Nachwuchswissenschaftler/innen vor:		
	Hörsaal 2	Hörsaal 1	
	Graduierten- / Doktorandenförderung:	Förderprogramme für Postdoktoranden/ Nachwuchsguppen:	
10:30 - 10:45	Nachwuchsförderung an der TUM: TUM Graduate School	10:30 - 10:45	Nachwuchsförderung an der LMU
10:45 - 11:15	Begabtenförderungswerke: Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft	10:45 - 11:15	Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung (AvH)
11:15 - 11:45	Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)	11:15 - 11:45	Max-Planck-Gesellschaft (MPG)
11:45 - 12:00	Nachwuchsförderung an der LMU: GraduateCenter ^{LMU}	11:45 - 12:00	Nachwuchsförderung an der TUM
12:00 - 13:00	Mittagspause		
13:00 - 13:45	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)	13:00 - 13:30	Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)
13:45 - 14:15	Max-Planck-Gesellschaft (MPG)	13:30 - 14:00	VolkswagenStiftung
14:15 - 14:45	Gerda Henkel Stiftung	14:00 - 14:30	Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft (HGF)
14:45 - 15:15	Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft (FhG)	14:30 - 15:15	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
15:15 - 15:45	Kaffeepause		
15:45 - 16:30	Marie Curie-Maßnahmen der Europäischen Kommission, KoWi	15:45 - 16:15	Leibniz-Gemeinschaft (WGL)
16:30 - 17:00	Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft (HGF)	16:15 - 16:30	Deutsch-Israelische Stiftung
		16:30 - 17:00	Marie Curie-Maßnahmen der Europäischen Kommission, KoWi
17:00 - 17:30	Leibniz-Gemeinschaft (WGL)	17:00 - 17:30	Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft (FhG)

ADVANCE NOTICE

Event
for Post-docs and PhD Students

Please register here:

<http://www.kowi.de/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-107/veranid-134/>

27 March, 9:30-17:30h
LMU – Campus Großhadern

Workshop for 2012 Marie Curie fellowship proposers: "Finishing touch" for your proposal

Successful applicants from the last call, the EU-Office and the National Contact Point Mobility will give practical advice to make your proposal highly competitive.

2 August, 14-17:30h
Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics

More information will be sent in time via our emailing list.

Thank you for your attention!

...Questions??