



Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Postdoctoral Fellowship 2021



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The person behind



First woman to win a ...,

First person and the only woman to win two ...

Only person to win the prize in two ...

Her husband, her daughter, her son-in-law were ...

Europe: West meets East and create a Nobel family

Her legacy continues...

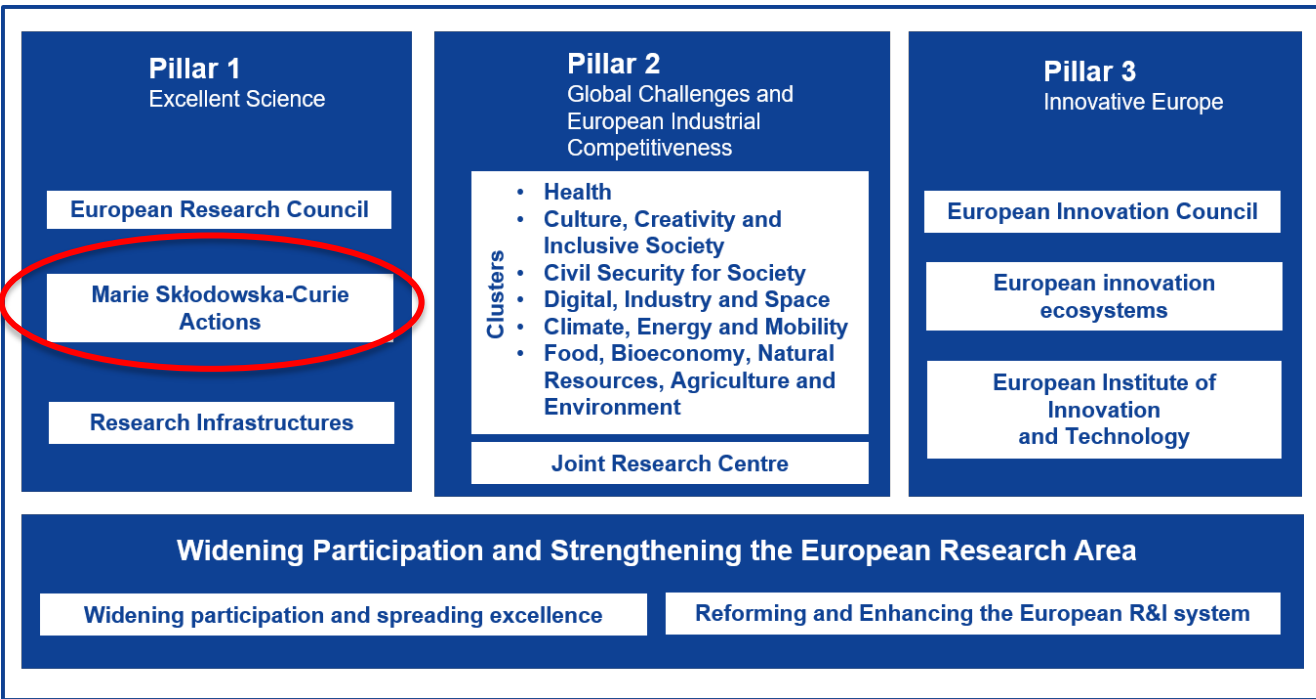
Running for more than 25 years now.

145 000 and counting...

9 Nobel Laureates as MSCA supervisor or fellow themselves

MSCA fellow going on win an Oscar

MSCA in Horizon Europe (2021-2027)



MSCA Actions under Horizon Europe

6.6 billion Euros

Doctoral Networks

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

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges

Support for research and innovation staff exchanges

COFUND

Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes

MSCA and Citizens

Public outreach events (Night)

What makes PF great?

- A unique opportunity to carry out an original and personalised research of **your choice**
- **Upgrade yourself**: Enhance your creative and innovative potential (training on research + transferable skills) + support to career development
- **Mobility** (international, inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary)
- Bridges and **exposure to the non-academic sector**

Research areas

- **All scientific fields: bottom up** (including Euratom areas*)
- Proposals evaluated and ranked in **8 Scientific panels**:
 - 1) Chemistry (CHE)
 - 2) Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)
 - 3) Economic Sciences (ECO)
 - 4) Information Science and Engineering (ENG)
 - 5) Environment and Geosciences (ENV)
 - 6) Life Sciences (LIF)
 - 7) Mathematics (MAT)
 - 8) Physics (PHY)

*restricted to nationals/long-term residents of EU MS or countries associated to EURATOM

Type of Postdoctoral Fellowships

- **European Postdoctoral Fellowships :**
Coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe
- **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships:**
Outside EU Member States and Horizon Europe AC to any Third Country.

Widening activities: 'ERA Fellowships' will be aligned with the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships call

Eligibility for European PF

- **Mobility Rule:** the postdoctoral candidate **must not** have lived, worked or studied in the country of the future European host institute for **more than 12 months** during the **3 years prior to deadline**.
- Any nationality, Any age.
- **Must hold PhD:** successfully defended (even if not awarded) the degree at the time of call deadline.
- **No more than 8 years of research experience after PhD** (exclude work outside research, breaks like parental leave).

Host Institution

Academic sector

- ✓ public or private higher education establishments
- ✓ public or private non-profit research organisations
- ✓ International European Research Organisations



Non-academic sector

- ✓ any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector like industry

Evaluation Criteria

Three evaluation criteria:

- **Excellence** (50%) - quality, pertinent, ambitious, soundness of the methodology, interdisciplinary, quality of the supervision, and quality and appropriateness of researcher's background.
- **Impact** (30%) – Career enhancement, contribution to skill development, maximise outcomes and impact, and overall contribution to science and society
- **Implementation** (20%) – Work plan (quality, risks) and host institution (quality and capacity).

Novel features

- Option to include a **secondment phase**, within the overall duration of the fellowship in any country **worldwide**. Max. 1/3 of the fellowship duration.
- Additional **six months** at the end of the project to work on R&I projects in the non-academic sector established in an EU MS or HE AC.
- **Seal of Excellence**: applications with a total score equal to or higher than 85%, but not funded due to lack of budget (provided above threshold in the three criteria). Adds weight to researcher's application, when they seek to apply to other funding sources offered by EU MS.

Who is involved in the application?

- **Applicant** (called 'Fellow'): in possession of PhD at the call deadline – no more than 8 years research experience after PhD.
- **Supervisor** (or 'Primary Coordinator Contact'): experienced researcher who will be supervising the fellow and the project. The fellow should develop the project proposal in liaison with the supervisor. [Guidelines on Supervision](#)
- **Beneficiary** (also called 'Host Institution'): this is the [European](#) university or institute or industry, validated by the EC as a 'legal entity' with [Participant Identification Code \(PIC\)](#).
- **Administrative Coordinator Contact**: the administrative person responsible on behalf of the beneficiary.

How does European PF work?

- 1. Find Host Institute:** PF candidate to find European Host Institute/Supervisor (academic or non-academic sector).
- 2. Proposal writing:** jointly written by the PF candidate and European Supervisor.
- 3. Submission of Proposal:** **Only the European Host supervisor** should press the "**submit**" button and take any other actions in the name of the organisation → electronic submission system of the Funder and Tender Portal.
- 4. Only one proposal per individual** researcher can be submitted. In case of several proposals, involving the same individual researcher, only the last submitted one will be considered eligible.
5. Successful proposal receive funding for up to **12 - 24 months**.
- 6. European host** institute **receives** the **money** and **recruits** the awarded researcher.

Duration and Funding

Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month					Institutional unit contributions Per person-month	
Living allowance	Mobility allowance	Family allowance (if applicable)	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 5 080	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 5 680 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 000	EUR 650

Host Countries

27 EU Member States (MS):

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

Horizon Europe Associated Countries (AC)*:

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Republic of North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine. **

* *Currently no country is associated to Horizon Europe. All countries associated to Horizon 2020 are considered incoming associated countries to Horizon Europe (see list of countries above), except Switzerland with whom the association discussions are on hold.*

** *Other countries (ex. UK) could become associated to Horizon Europe. Please check the F&T portal for updated list of countries that will be associated to the EU's Horizon Europe programme*

ERA - Widening Fellowships

- **European Research Area (ERA) Fellowships** aligned with the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2021 – funded through the **Widening part of the Horizon Europe Work Programme**.
- The best ranking MSCA-PF proposals with host institution in one of the “Widening countries” that are not funded due to lack of budget will be **funded from the ‘Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence’ part in of Horizon Europe**.
- In the application for MSCA-PF, the fellow **must indicate** that if not selected for funding, he/she wants to **apply for the ERA Fellowship**.
- After the MSCA-PF evaluation is completed, if the proposal is not selected due to lack of funding, but is eligible for ERA Fellowship, it is **automatically ‘resubmitted’** to the ERA Fellowship call (with the score the proposal received in the MSCA-PF evaluation provided the score is above threshold in all criteria).

ERA - Widening Fellowships

4 - Ethics

5 - Call-specific questions

Validation result

2. Some national and regional public research funding authorities run schemes to fund MSCA applicants that score highly in the MSCA evaluation but which cannot be funded by the MSCA due to their limited budget. In case this proposal could not be selected for funding by the MSCA, do the researcher and supervisor consent to the European Commission disclosing to such authorities the results of its evaluation (score and ranking range) together with their names and contact details, non-confidential proposal title and abstract, proposal acronym, and host organisation?

Yes No

3. Do you wish to participate to the Widening Fellowships and thus increase your chances of being funded?

Yes No

If you don't reply or if you maintain 'No' as your answer, be aware that your proposal will not benefit from an extra chance of being funded under the Widening Fellowships call in case it cannot be funded under the MSCA-Individual Fellowships call.

The country of the selected PIC belongs to the list of widening countries. A dedicated budget (EUR 6 million) has been set aside under the Work Programme "Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation" to fund EF proposals submitted to the MSCA-IF-2019 call but which cannot be funded under the EF lists of the MSCA-IF-2019 call due to a lack of budget. EF proposals where the host organisation is located in an eligible widening country will be automatically duplicated into the Widening call only if you express your wish to do so. Your decision not to participate in the Widening call will not affect your chances of being funded directly under the MSCA-IF-2019 call.

*ERA - Widening Countries

15 EU Member States are eligible for Widening support:

Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

12 (incoming) Associated Countries eligible for Widening support*:

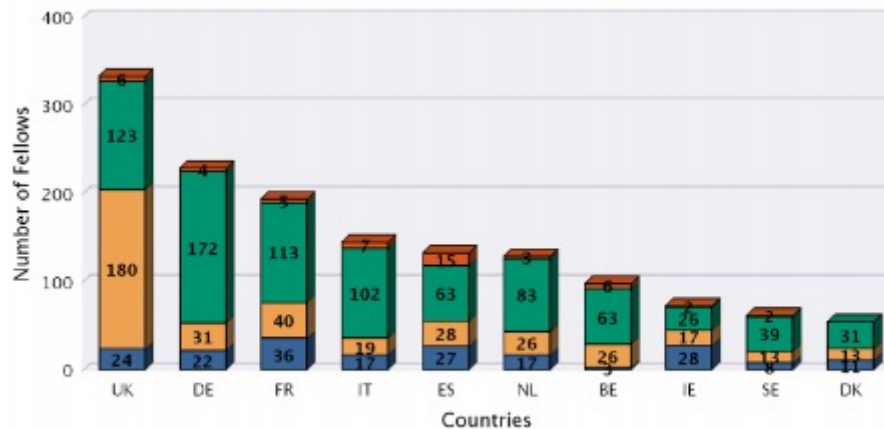
Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, The Republic of North Macedonia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

**subject to successful association to Horizon Europe negotiations. Check the F&T portal for updated list of countries that will be associated to the EU's Horizon Europe programme*

Success rate

- **14%-18%** overall success rate under H2020-MSCA-European Fellowship
- **>1900** Indian researchers (31% are women) funded by H2020 – MSCA
- **449** IND recipients of H2020-MSCA-IF –EF
- **2nd** rank: among non-European countries, IND ranked just behind China in terms of number of researchers

IN fellows (nationals) grouped by country of destination (top 10 countries)



Tentative Timeline

- Invitation to Submit Proposal: **22 June 2021**
- Deadline for Submission: **12 October 2021** 17:00 Brussels Time
- Evaluation of Proposals: **October-December 2021 (TBC)**
- Information on Outcome of Evaluations: **February-March 2022 (TBC)**
- Indicative Date for Signing the Grant Agreement: **March-April 2022 (TBC)**
- Prospective Start Date **April-September 2022 (TBC)**

Useful links

- Euraxess Portal (PhD and postdoctorate vacancies, more information)

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

- List of National Contact Points

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

- Research Inquiry Service

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service-and-participant-validation_en

- Funding and Tenders Portal (calls, applications, etc.)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

- MCAA (Alumni association)

<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu>

MSCA website: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>

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Thank you!