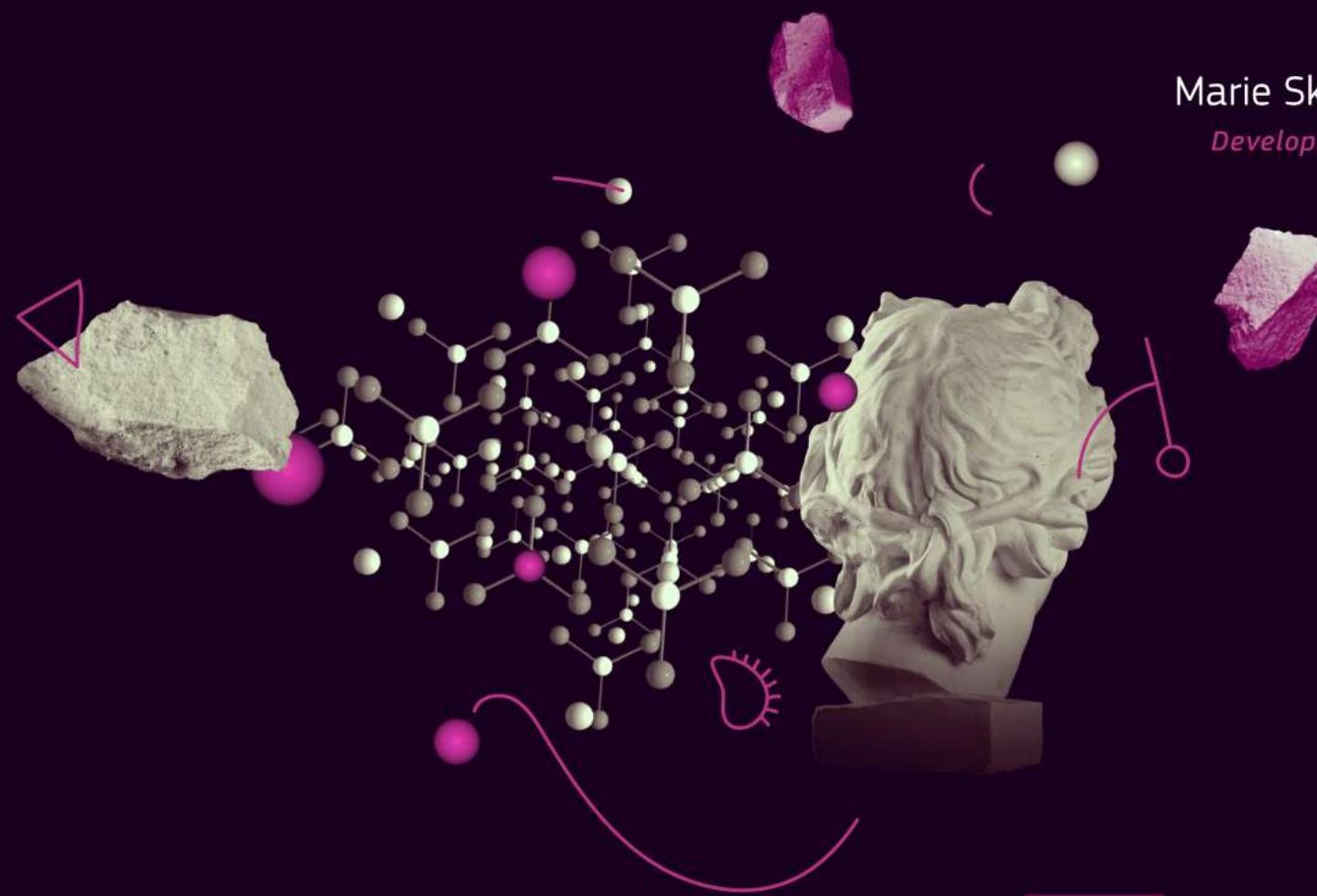




MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Thierry Devars

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Unit
DG EAC, European Commission
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Horizon Europe

EURATOM



Budget: EUR 95.5 billion

MSCA Key priorities and features



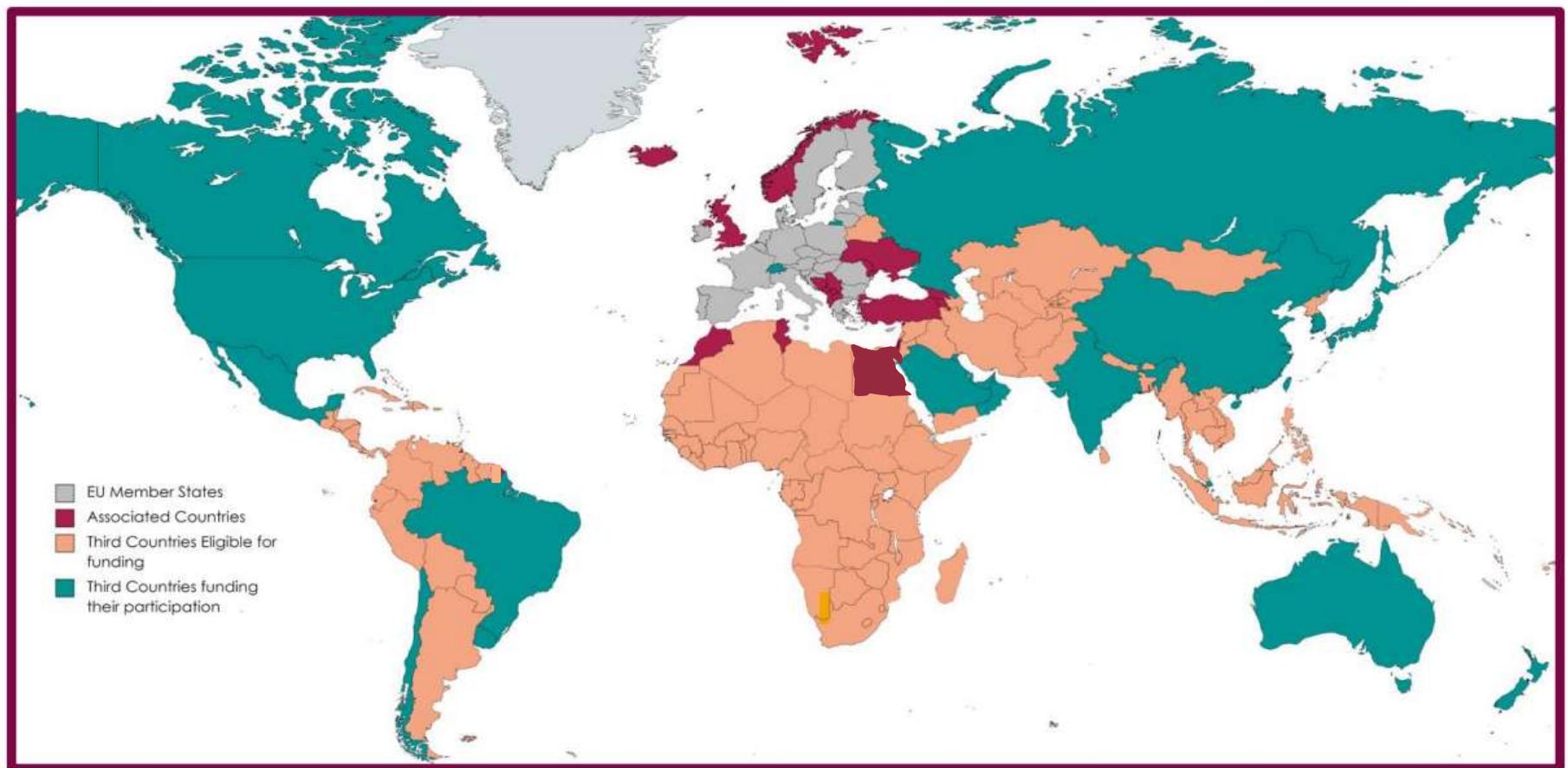
* Proposals are allocated and evaluated in 8 scientific panels according to their scope: **Chemistry (CHE)**, **Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)**, **Economic Sciences (ECO)**, **Information Science and Engineering (ENG)**, **Environment and Geosciences (ENV)**, **Life Sciences (LIF)**, **Mathematics (MAT)**, **Physics (PHY)**

Key figures

- MSCA = **7%** HE budget;
- **60%** of MSCA budget funds multi-beneficiary Actions (collaborative R&I projects)
- **8470** distinct organisations involved so far in MSCA in Horizon Europe; **63%** from non-academic sector; **50%** from industry
- MSCA = **1/3** of all applications to Horizon Europe; 2025 Postdoctoral Fellowships call = 17,000 applications (highest record for a single call in all FPs); > 6000 evaluators
- MSCA = most cost-effective FP part in terms of scientific output, very close to ERC and by far above the FP average (ERC = 91 scientific publications/10M€; MSCA = **86**; H2020 average= 34)
- Account alone for about **half** of total participations from third countries'organisations
- **42%** of researchers involved are nationals from non-EU countries; **87%** of fellows still in Europe two years after the end of their fellowships; female researchers=**44%** of all researchers involved
- MSCA is **30** years in 2026 ! [30 years of MSCA - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)

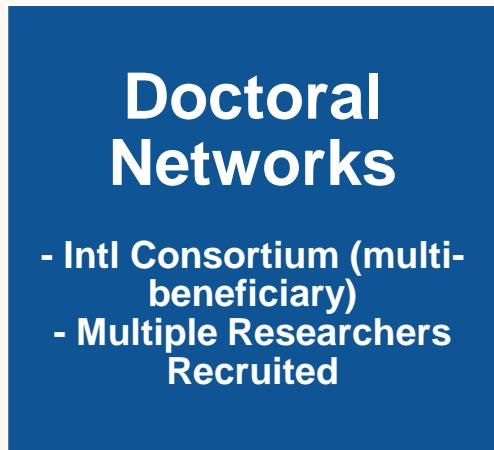
MSCA international cooperation:

MSCA Action	Beneficiary	Associated Partner
Doctoral Networks	Yes	Yes
Staff Exchanges	No	Yes
Postdoctoral Fellowships	No	Yes
COFUND	No	Yes



Canada, South Korea and New-Zealand are associated to Horizon Europe pillar 2

Actions



Researchers apply directly to the call with their host organisation



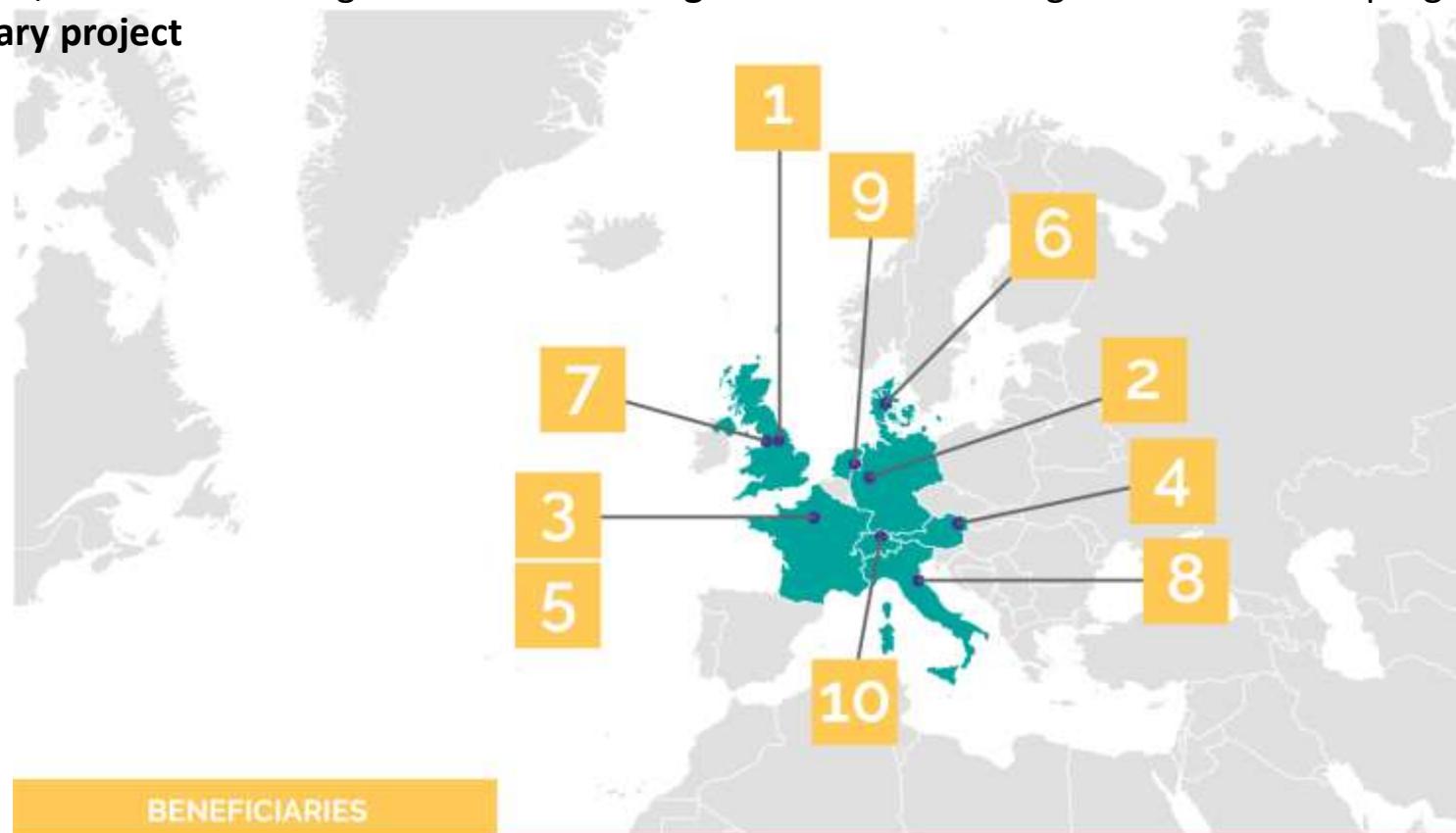
Researchers apply to vacancies in selected projects (Euraxess portal)



Researchers/ R&I staffmembers participate in the project activities



Beneficiaries = any legal entity eligible to EU funding (**including third countries**, either through automatic or exceptional funding) set of academic/non-academic organisations **recruiting** fellows and enrolling them in doctoral programmes, in the context of a **collaborative interdisciplinary project**



BENEFICIARIES

1. University of Leeds
2. Ruhr-Universität Bochum
3. CEA-Saclay
4. Keysight Technologies
5. Université Paris
6. Aarhus University
7. Univiversity of Warick
8. Elements srl
9. University of Twente
10. ETH Zürich

THE SENTINEL NETWORK

Bringing together people and organisations from across the world to train the next generation of scientists and entrepreneurs in the field of electrochemistry.

OUR PARTNERS & BENEFICIARIES

ORGANISATION	SUPERVISORS	DUN EDITS	COUNTRY
University of Leeds	Dr Pauline Atkinson	0300 7000 0000	UK
Ruhr-Universität Bochum	Prof. Wolfgang Herges	0300 7000 0000	Germany
CEA-Saclay	Dr Hervé Martin	0300 7000 0000	France
Keysight Technologies	Dr Henry Hergenrother	0300 7000 0000	Austria
University of Warwick	Prof. David J. Morris	0300 7000 0000	UK
Aarhus University	Prof. Hyoung-Jae Jang	0300 7000 0000	Denmark
University of Twente	Prof. Paulien Everts	0300 7000 0000	Netherlands
Elements srl, Università Twente	Dr Francesco Tricarico	0300 7000 0000	Italy
ETH Zürich	Prof. Stephan Zabel	0300 7000 0000	Switzerland



OUR NETWORK

20 Organisations involved
14 Universities | Companies
15 Early Stage Researchers
14 Languages spoken
11 Supervisors
11 Professors | Doctors
13 Countries involved
13 Nationalities

Associated partners = set of academic/non-academic organisations **hosting** fellows during secondments; **participate to the collaborative research project**



PARTNERS

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Somersault 18:24 | 6. University of Tokyo |
| 2. Nanjing University | 7. Sense about Science |
| 3. Biologic | 8. Johannes Kepler University Linz |
| 4. University of Utah | 9. University of Bologna |
| 5. Indiana University | 10. University of Paris-Saclay |

Fellows: Recruiting the best doctoral candidate/position = open recruitment, any nationality/worldwide



MSCA Doctoral Networks

Types of action



**DN
(Standard)**

**ID
(Industrial
Doctorates)**

**JD
(Joint
Doctorates)**

**Project
duration**

Max 48 months

Max 60 months

Fellowship

Max 36 months

**Max 36 months (50% in
the non-academic
sector)**

Max 48 months

Secondments

**Max half* of the
fellowship**

No limitation of secondment duration

PhD

**All DCs enrolled in a PhD from a MS/AC,
except for beneficiaries from non-
associated third countries***

**Enrolled in
PhD from min.
1 MS/AC**

* As from 2026



MSCA DN Summary

Consortium

- Up to 540 person-months for all DN modalities
- At least **three** independent legal entities, each established in a different MS or AC; minimum **1 beneficiary from a MS** (no minimum for associated partners).
- **Each beneficiary must recruit at least 1 DC**
- **Max 40% funding per country**
- **Associated partners** contribute to the implementation of the action (i.e. training of researchers, secondments) but may not employ researchers under the action. They do not sign the grant agreement.

Recruitment

- **Open, fair, transparent, merit-based recruitment.**
- Eligible researchers must:
 - Comply with the MSCA **mobility rule***
 - **Be Doctoral candidates** (not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of recruitment)
 - They can be of **any nationality**.



* DCs must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.

MSCA DN 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 4250*	EUR 710	EUR 660	EUR 4720 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ¹ x (1/number of months)	EUR 1600	EUR 1200

*A country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance in order to ensure equal treatment and purchasing power parity for all researchers

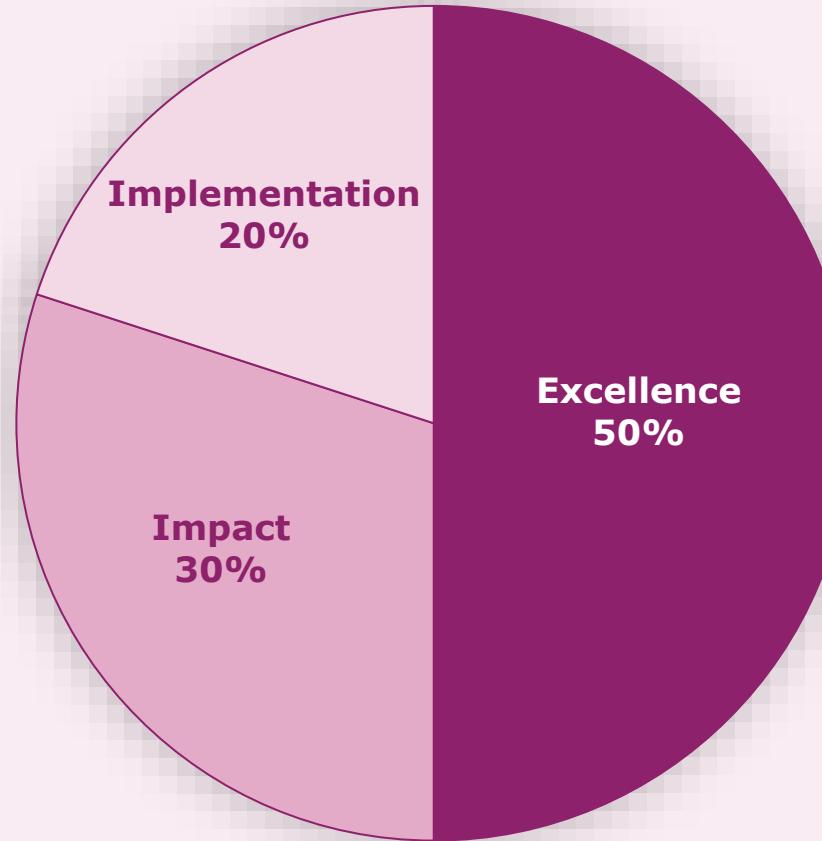
** A family allowance to contribute to mobility-related costs of researchers with family obligations which can be granted during the project.

¹The pre-defined categories are as follows: EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.

MSCA DN

Evaluation criteria

WEIGTHING

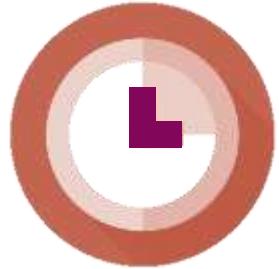


- Workplan
- Quality and role of each participant

- Structuring doctoral training
- Career perspectives
- Dissemination and exploitation
- Scientific, societal and economic impact

- Research and innovation objectives
- Methodology
- Training programme
- supervision

MSCA Staff Exchanges



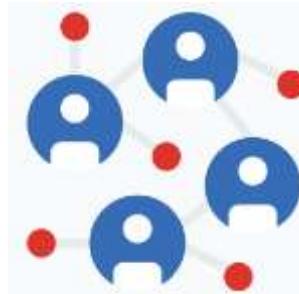
DURATION

Max 4 years



COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations in
3 different countries
(min. 2 EU MS or HE
AC)



SECONDMENTS

1-12 months per staff



BUDGET

Max EUR 1.6 million
(360 PM per project)

MSCA Staff Exchanges

Institutions:

- Consortium with minimum 3 organisations in 3 different countries
- Associated partners

Target:

- Researchers at any career stage linked to the sending organisation as well as administrative, managerial, or technical staff supporting the R&I activities under the project

Funding:

- A top up allowance (€2870 to cover a researcher's costs related to the secondment)
- Institutional unit cost (management €1000, research, training and networking costs €1300)

Length:

- Min 1 month exchange per staff member
- Max 12 month exchange per staff member
- Max 48 month project



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships - Types

European Fellowships

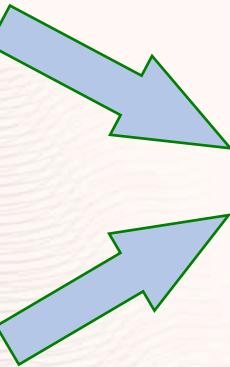


EU MS/AC



Third Country

Duration: 12-24m



EU MS/AC

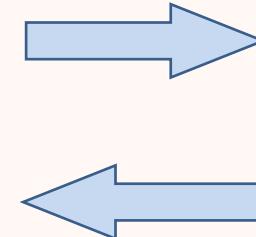
+ Non-Academic
Placement
Max. 6m

Global Fellowships

Outgoing phase: 12–24m



EU MS/AC



Third Country

Return phase: 12m

Duration: 24-36m



Eligible Researchers

EF

GF

any nationality

**nationals or long-term
residents of MS or HE AC**

with a doctoral degree prior to call deadline

max 8 years FTE research experience after PhD

compliant with MSCA mobility rule

ERA Fellowships

Call name :
HORIZON-WIDERA-
2026-05
HORIZON-WIDERA-
2027-03

Budget :
EUR 8.00 million each
year, only for EF



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Lead institutions:

- Single beneficiary
- Associated partners (including a third country host in the case of Global Fellowships)

Target:

- Researchers with a doctoral degree and up to 8 years of post-PhD research experience

Funding:

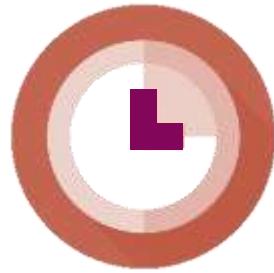
- Researcher unit cost (living €6350, mobility €710 and family allowance €660)
- Institutional unit cost (management €650, research, training and networking costs €1000)

Length:

- Max 24 months for European Fellowships
- Max 36 months for Global Fellowships (incl. a mandatory 12 month return phase)
- Optional additional 6 months for a non-academic placement



MSCA COFUND



DURATION

Max 5 years



COMPOSITION

1 beneficiary from EU MS
or HE AC



FELLOWSHIP

For doctoral and
postdoctoral researchers for
minimum 3 months



BUDGET

Co-funding
Max EUR 10 million per
beneficiary per call

MSCA COFUND

Institutions:

- Single beneficiary
- Implementing partners
- Associated partners

Target:

- Doctoral programmes: Researchers without a doctoral degree
- Postdoctoral programmes: Researchers with a doctoral degree

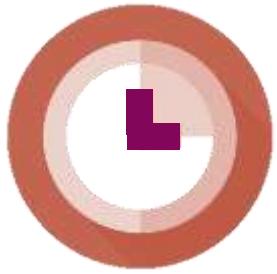
Funding:

- COFUND allowance per person-month (70% living + mobility allowance in DN or PF)
- Living allowances doctorates €3500, postdoc €4980
- Co-funded by beneficiary with salaries set at attractive levels above the minimum remuneration

Length:

- Minimum 3 month fellowships
- Maximum 60 month project duration

MSCA Choose Europe for Science (CEfS) 2027 call



DURATION

2-3 yrs EU-funded phase
2 yrs phase fully funded by the beneficiary (and partners)



COMPOSITION

1 beneficiary from EU MS or HE AC + implementing partners



RECRUITMENT

For at least 3 researchers at post-doctoral level



BUDGET

EUR 51.25 million
Max EUR 5 million per beneficiary per call
Co-funding required

2026-2027 Calls

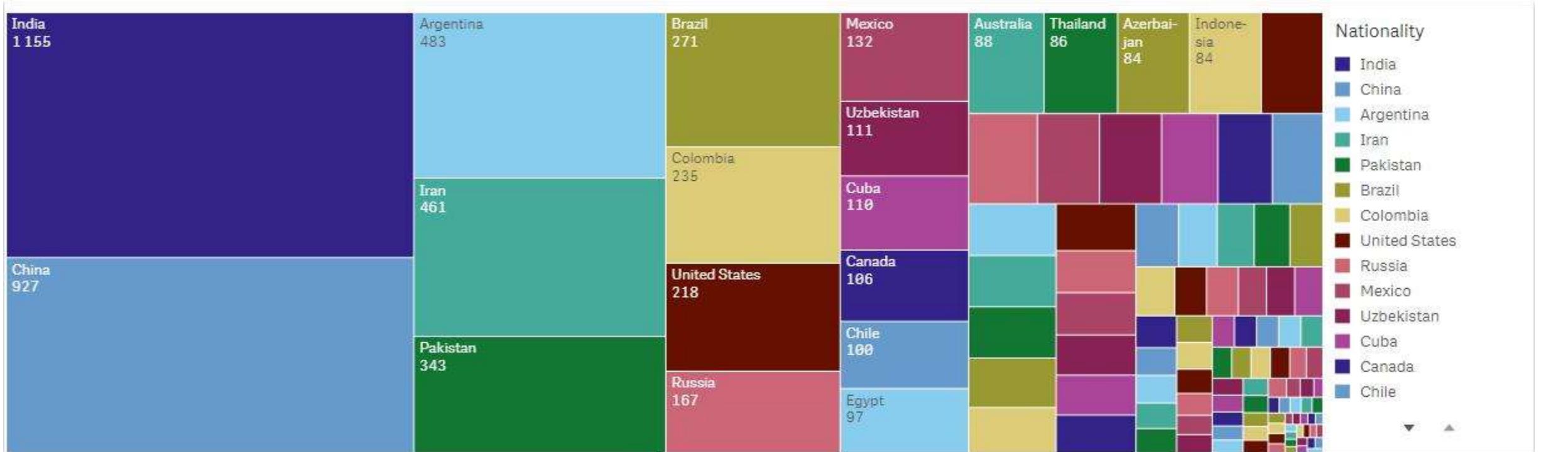
CALL	2026			CALL	2027			Budget (M€)
	opening	closing	budget (M€)		opening	closing		
DN 2026	28/05/26	24/11/26	593.03	DN 2027	26/05/2027	23/11/2027	574.62	
PF 2026	09/04/26	09/09/26	399.05	PF 2027	07/04/27	08/09/27	388.57	
SE 2026	16/12/25	16/04/26	97.92	SE 2027	15/12/26	15/04/27	95.04	
COFUND 2026	16/12/25	08/04/26	105.46	COFUND 2027	08/12/26	06/04/27	51.25	
				CHOOSE EUROPE 2027	08/12/26	06/04/27	51.25	
				CITIZENS 2027	09/03/27	08/06/27	15.71	

MSCA is by far the most international part of the Framework Programme

- MSCA alone accounts for 49,8% of the total number of participations from third countries'organisations in Horizon Europe (49% in H2020)

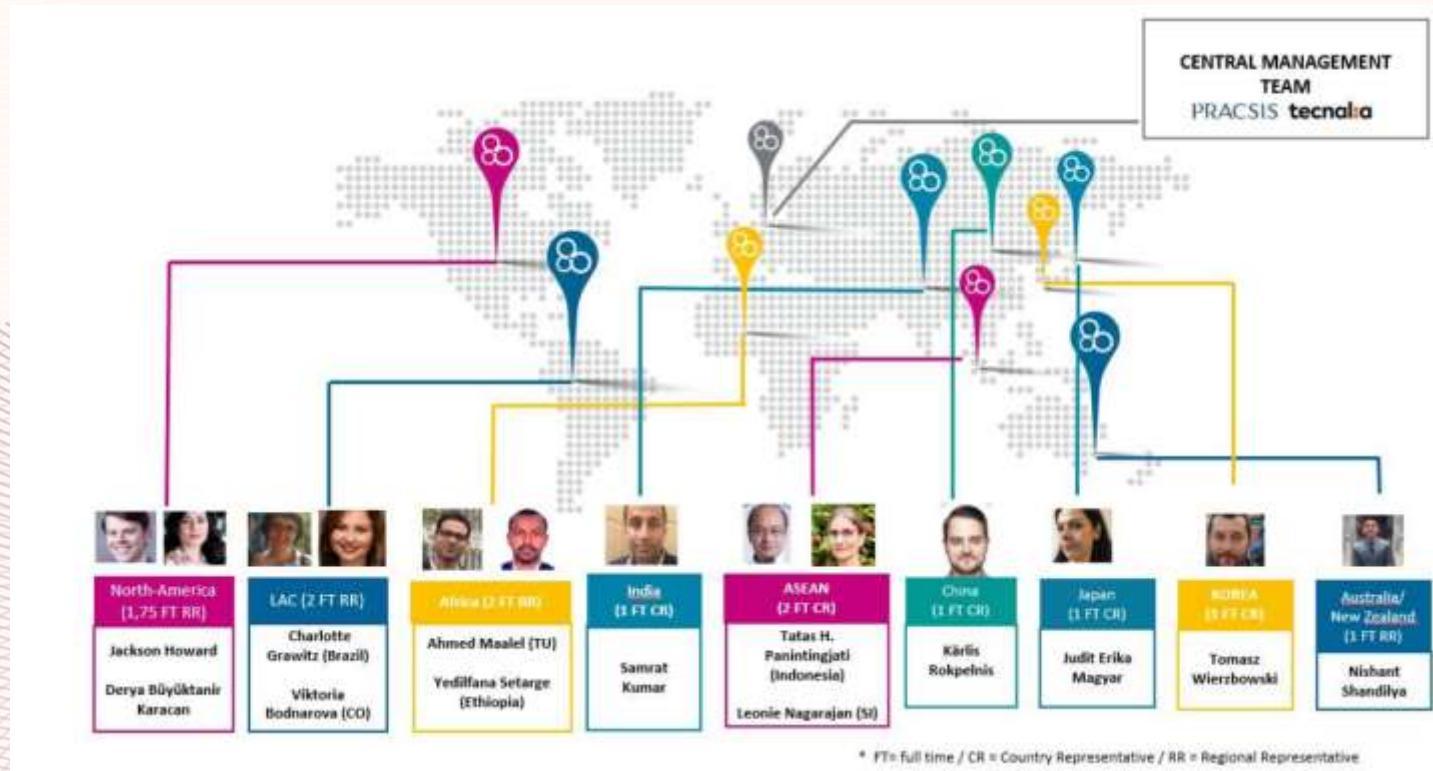
COUNTRY	HE participations	MSCA participations	Ratio
AUSTRALIA	249	152	61%
BRAZIL	180	107	59,4%
CANADA	335	179	53,4%
CHINA	256	114	44,5%
INDIA	81	27	33,3%
JAPAN	174	116	66,6%
MEXICO	54	46	85,2%
UNITED STATES	1407	968	68,8%

- 45% of researchers involved in MSCA are nationals from non-EU countries



MSCA promotion at international level

- TC researchers : Euraxess Worldwide (DG RTD)



- TC organisations: MSCA-GLOPOL (DG EAC)

MSCA-GLOPOL geographical coverage



Glopol activities

Policy

Tracking progress & opportunities

Monitor participation trends and cooperation challenges in MSCA bilateral and bi-regional partnerships through *quantitative* and *qualitative* assessment.

Promotion

Strategic promotion

Coordinate with local information networks to ensure *strategic, targeted* and *effective* promotion of MSCA opportunities for institutions.

Synergies

Strengthening synergies

Align MSCA activities with other EU research and innovation initiatives for *maximum impact*.

Email Contact



contact@msca-glopol.eu

Social media



LinkedIn: [msca-glopol](#)

Bluesky: [msca-glopol.bsky.social](#)

Project Website



www.msca-glopol.eu

EXAMPLE : BRAZIL

Priority 1: Strengthen MSCA participation in bilateral strategic cooperation domains	Priority 2 : promote existing co-funding mechanism from CONFAP	Priority 3 : explore cooperation with CAPES (linked to Education Ministry)
Map current MSCA projects against EU-Brazil bilateral cooperation priorities (biodiversity, ocean sciences, health, energy, digital, clean aviation)	Assess the existing mechanism through stakeholder consultations with CONFAP and representative FAPs to identify operational bottlenecks	Explore cooperation with the CAPES-Global,Edu programme for the internationalisation of Brazilian universities
Identify top Brazilian institutions in priority themes with limited or no MSCA participation	Map current utilisation rates of the co-funding mechanism by state and research institution to identify geographical and institutional gaps	Disseminate successful participation of Brazilian institutions such as FGV in MSCA DN (JD with ULB and LUISS University of Rome
Develop targeted outreach campaigns to these institutions, explaining MSCA advantages and application processes	Database of successful co-funding cases to serve as best practice examples for future applicants	Pave the way to a new MSCA co-funding arrangement between EC and Capes
Identify MSCA alumni in partnership with MCAA and/or EU researchers through the Association of EU researchers to Brazil (AERB) to coordinate targeted communication efforts	Comprehensive assessment report identifying specific barriers and recommended solutions for improving co-funding mechanism accessibility	
Organise thematic workshops and information sessions in priority cooperation areas		

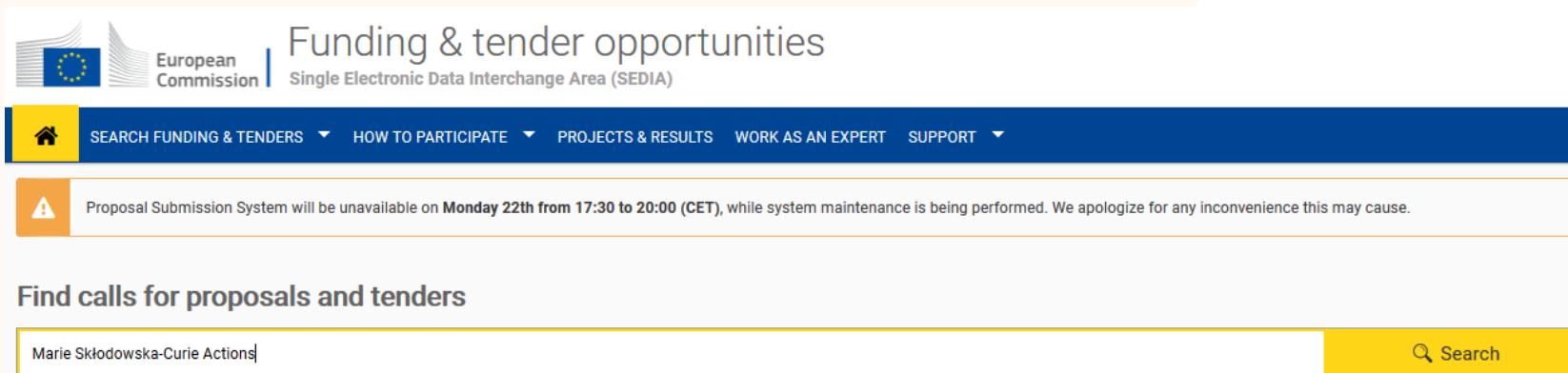
Matching funds



Funding opportunities

- All calls are published on the **Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal**
- Applications are submitted through the portal:
 - Find your call
 - Sign in to the portal and register your organisation (get a PIC number)
 - Find partners
 - Apply

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



The screenshot shows the homepage of the European Commission's Funding & tender opportunities portal. At the top, there is a logo for the European Commission and the text "Funding & tender opportunities" and "Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)". Below this is a navigation bar with links for "SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS", "HOW TO PARTICIPATE", "PROJECTS & RESULTS", "WORK AS AN EXPERT", and "SUPPORT". A yellow banner at the bottom of the navigation bar contains a warning message: "⚠ Proposal Submission System will be unavailable on Monday 22th from 17:30 to 20:00 (CET), while system maintenance is being performed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause." Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled "Find calls for proposals and tenders" with a search bar containing the text "Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions" and a "Search" button. The overall design is white with blue and yellow accents.



Looking for a partner?

Some useful resources and links

- Vacancies under MSCA Doctoral Networks and COFUND programmes are published on the [Euraxess](#) portal (as well as some offers from host institutions for Postdoctoral Fellowships)
- [MSCA Matchmaking platform](#) for researchers and organisation to find relevant partners and host institutions
- “[Partner search](#)” tool on Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal
- [Enterprise Europe Networks](#) (for non-academic partners)
- [Seal of Excellence schemes](#) for unsuccessful excellent projects in PF or COFUND

Key resources and guidance

- Check all **guidance documents** available on [Funding and Tenders Portal](#) :
 - Guide for applicants: overview of rules, financial aspects, etc.
 - MSCA Work Programme and annexes
 - Proposal templates
 - Model Grant Agreements
 - Horizon Europe Programme Guide
 - Online manual on how to submit an application
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Partner search
- Ask for advice to your **MSCA [National Contact Point](#)** where available



Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Website



LinkedIn



Thank you!



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