The Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) contribute to excellent research, boosting jobs, growth and investment by equipping researchers with the new knowledge, skills and international and intersectoral exposure to fill the top positions of tomorrow and solve current and future societal challenges. The MSCA are based on the principle of mobility, and researchers can receive funding on the condition that they move from one country to another to acquire new knowledge and develop their research career.

The general conditions for a participation in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions are

- **Mobility of the researchers**: international and/or intersectoral (between academic and non-academic sector).
- **No age limit**: the programme addresses researchers and innovation staff at all stages of their career.
- **Bottom-up approach**: research projects can be chosen freely by the applicants.
- **Equal opportunities** (including gender balance and the inclusion of researchers with disabilities): all MSCA proposals are encouraged to take appropriate measures. If applicable, the gender dimension in the research content has to be addressed in the proposal.
- **The principles of the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers** (Charter and Code) promoting open recruitment and attractive working and employment conditions are a cornerstone of the MSCA and must be applied by all funded participants.

**DEFINITIONS**

- **Early stage researcher**: less than 4 years of research experience, and not yet awarded a PhD
- **Experienced researcher**: with PhD or at least 4 years of research experience
- **Academic sector**: Public or private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees, public or private non-profit research organisations whose primary mission is to pursue research, and international European interest organisations.
- **Non-Academic sector**: Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector (industry, SMEs, government, civil society organisations, cultural institutions, hospitals, etc.)

**FACTS**

- **Specific Programme**: Excellent Science: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- **Duration**: 2014 - 2020
- **Budget**: EUR 6.162 billion
- **Links**:
  - [https://www.ffg.at/europa/h2020/msca](https://www.ffg.at/europa/h2020/msca)
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/msca](http://ec.europa.eu/msca)
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Activities for Individual Researchers: Individual Fellowships (IF)

- Experienced researchers carry out a research project in another country, either with an European (or Widening) Fellowship or a Global Fellowship:
  
  - **European Fellowships** are held in EU Member States (MS) or H2020 Associated Countries (AC) and are open to researchers either coming to Europe or moving within Europe to carry out research projects for the duration of 1-2 years (up to 3 years for the Career Restart Panel). Beside the Standard European Fellowship, which is evaluated in one of eight scientific panels, researchers can apply in one of three multi-disciplinary panels for specific situations: the Reintegration Panel for the return and reintegration of researchers into a longer term research position in Europe, the Career Restart Panel for individuals wishing to resume research in Europe after a career break, and the Society and Enterprise panel for researchers seeking to work on research & innovation projects in the non-academic sector.

- **Widening Fellowships** provide specific support to researchers to undertake their fellowship in one of the so-called widening countries in Europe (countries with a relatively low research & innovation performance). This will help spread excellence and close still apparent gaps within Europe.

- **Global Fellowships** are based on a secondment to a third country (i.e. not MS or AC) for 1-2 years, followed by a mandatory 12 month return period to a European host institution (MS/AC).

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions for Research Institutions and Enterprises:

- **Innovative Training Networks (ITN):** Networks of organisations build together a joint training/doctoral programme for early-stage researchers in the context of an international and intersectoral research project. The researchers should be offered the whole range of career perspectives, relevant in the respective research field.

- **Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE):** Supports international and inter-sector collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges and networking activities. Exchanges can be for both early-stage and experienced researchers’ levels and can also include administrative, managerial and technical staff.

- **Researchers’ Night (NIGHT):** organisation of an event bringing researchers closer to the general public and increasing awareness of research and innovation activities.

- **Co-funding of Regional, National and International Programmes (COFUND):** Co-funding of doctoral and fellowship programmes to support researcher’s international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary research training.

CONTACT

- **Mag. Therese Lindahl**
  National Contact Point
  Tel.: +43 (0)5 7755 – 4604
  therese.lindahl@ffg.at

- **Dr. Lil Reif**
  Expert
  Tel.: +43 (0)5 7755 – 4608
  lil.reif@ffg.at

- **Dr. Yasmin Dolak-Struß**
  Expert
  Tel.: +43 (0)5 7755 – 4606
  yasmin.dolak@ffg.at

- **Gudrun Reisenauer**
  Assistant
  Tel.: +43 (0)5 7755 – 4111
  gudrun.reisenauer@ffg.at

Researchers from Austrian universities and non-university research institutions are kindly asked to contact their research services for basic counselling (for universities: www.forschungsservice.at).

All activities of the FFG in the European and International Programmes Division are funded by the Republic of Austria and the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber.