

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The goal of the **Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)** is to **enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD** and who wish to acquire **new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility (between academic and non-academic sector)**.

PF are open to excellent researchers of any nationality. The scheme also encourages researchers to work on research and innovation projects in the **non-academic sector** and is open to researchers wishing to **reintegrate in Europe**, to those who are **displaced by conflict**, as well as to researchers with high potential who are seeking to **restart their careers in research**. **Applications are made jointly by the researcher and the host organisation** in the academic or the non-academic sector. The action follows a **bottom-up approach**, i.e. research fields are chosen freely by the applicants, including areas of research covered by the Euratom Programme.

Postdoctoral Fellowships either can take place in **Europe, i.e. an EU Member State (MS) or a Horizon Europe Associated Country (AC)**, or in a **Third Country not associated to Horizon Europe**:

- **European Postdoctoral Fellowships** are open to researchers holding a PhD who wish to engage in R&I projects of **12-24 months** by either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe (i.e. MS/AC). For researchers undertaking their fellowship in one of the so-called Widening Countries in Europe (countries with a relatively low research & innovation performance), the **ERA Fellowships** provide additional support.
- **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships** are open to researchers holding a PhD who wish to engage in R&I projects with organisations in a Third Country for **12-24 months**, followed by a mandatory **return phase of 12 months** to a host organisation based in a MS/AC.
- **An additional period of up to six months at the end of the project** can be awarded to researchers who will spend that period in a **non-academic organisation established in a MS/AC**. For fellows recruited in the non-academic sector during the PF, such a placement must be implemented at a *different* non-academic host organisation established in a MS/AC.

NEXT CALLS

HORIZON-MSCA-2021-PF-01, opening 22 June 2021

Budget: EUR million 242

Deadline: 12 October 2021

HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01, opening 12 May 2022

Budget: EUR million 257

Deadline: 14 September 2022

DEFINITIONS

Academic sector: Public or private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees, public or private non-profit research organisations for whom one of the main objectives is to pursue research or technological development, and International European Research Organisations.

Non-Academic sector: Any socio-economic actor not included in the academic sector (e.g industry, business, independent research infrastructures, government, civil society organisations, cultural institutions, hospitals, etc.).

ELIGIBILITY

- **Mobility rule:** Recruited researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of destination for more than 12 months within the past 3 years immediately before the call deadline. For the **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships**, the researcher must comply with the mobility rule in the country for the outgoing phase (not for the return phase).
- **Note:** For researchers wishing to **reintegrate** from a Third Country, there must be a direct mobility to a MS/AC within the last 12 months before the call deadline.
- Supported **researchers can be of any nationality**. However, researchers applying for a Global Postdoctoral Fellowship or researchers who wish to **reintegrate** to Europe, must be **nationals or long-term residents of MS or AC**. Long-term residence means a period of legal and continuous residence within EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries of at least five consecutive years.
- **Note:** for fellowships in **research areas covered by Euratom**, special eligibility conditions regarding the host countries and the nationality of the fellows apply, cf. the [MSCA Work Programme](#).
- At the call deadline, researchers must have **a maximum of 8 years full-time equivalent experience in research**, measured from the date that the researcher was in a possession of a doctoral degree. Years of experience outside research and career breaks are not taken into account. For **reintegration** to Europe, also years of experience in research in Third Countries will not be considered in the above maximum.
- Proposals involving the same individual researcher and host organisation (for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships, also the organisation hosting the outgoing phase) submitted to the previous call of PF under Horizon Europe and **having received a score of less than 70% should not be resubmitted the following year**.

FUNDING

The contribution of the European Commission covers the activities of the researcher as well as part of the costs for the implementation of the project. If applicable, the researcher is also entitled to a family allowance, long-term leave allowance and/or a special needs allowance.

Contributions for the recruited researcher [person/month]:

Living allowance:	EUR 5,080.00
Mobility allowance:	EUR 600.00

A correction coefficient applies to the living allowance, reflecting the cost of living of the host country (e.g. Austria: 106.3%)

Institutional contributions [person/month]:

Research, training and networking contribution:	EUR 1,000.00
Management and indirect contribution:	EUR 650.00

CONTACT

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

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