

**European Funding and Policy
Support for Research Careers**

January 2018



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Impressum

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1. Update on ITN Deadline 2018

The new year started with the first MSCA deadline for Innovative Training Networks (call 2018), which passed 17 January 2018. This time, altogether 1.658 proposals were submitted, distributed across the different ITN formats in the following way:

- European Training Networks (ETN): 1.417 proposals (85.5% of total)
- European Industrial Doctorates (EID): 160 proposals (9.6% of total)
- European Joint Doctorates (EJD): 81 proposals (4.9% of total)

Results are expected in June this year. The next ITN calls will open by mid-September 2018, with the deadline 15 January 2019, and by mid-October 2019 with the deadline 9 January 2020. Similarly to the ITN call 2018, the budget for both calls is expected to be increased – with a plus of 28 Mio. EUR (total of 470 Mio. EUR) in 2019 and a plus of 55 Mio. EUR (total of 525 Mio. EUR) for the ITN call 2020.

2. Fresh input on a well-known issue: LERU advice paper on gender bias in academia

The League of European Research Universities (LERU) has recently published an advice paper “Implicit bias in academia: A challenge to the meritocratic principle and to women's careers - and what to do about it”. The paper looks at the role of implicit gender bias as a mechanism behind the loss of female talent in academia, in particular related to working conditions, recruitment and career advancement processes, and in research funding. It shows that gender bias, if properly understood and recognised, can be countered and highlights three areas in which LERU universities are active: (1) leadership, vision and strategy, (2) implementation of structural measures and (3) to ensure the effective implementation of the measures across the institution.

The advice paper includes nine recommendations for universities and other organisations and policy makers, e.g. to have a regular monitoring of organisational structures and processes in place and to assign clear accountability with final responsibility for action; to examine crucial areas of potential bias and define measure for countering this, including a close monitoring. Other recommendations point to the relevance to monitor potential bias in language used in recruitment processes and the need to eliminate the pay gap, to monitor precarious contracts and part-time positions for any gender-based difference and correct inequalities, to gather expertise and organise gender bias trainings in various formats. Apart from the recommendations, the advice paper includes several examples of how LERU universities are encountering implicit gender bias in practice. All in all, good fresh input on a well-known topic. <https://www.leru.org/files/implicit-bias-in-academia-full-paper.pdf>.

3. Tipp: Excellence through Diversity: Doctoral education in a globalised world, Ljubljana, 7-8 June 2018

This year's Annual Meeting of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) reflects the diversity of European higher education and research systems and the changes that have taken place in the doctoral education landscape over the last decade. These include higher participation rates, continued internationalisation, the organisational variety of doctoral programmes and diverse backgrounds of doctoral candidates. The focus will be on exploring the ways in which embracing diversity in doctoral education contributes to promoting research excellence, innovation and improved career opportunities for doctoral candidates. Furthermore,

the results of a major study on the organisation of doctoral education in Europe that EUA-CDE has been carrying out over the last year will be presented and discussed.

Since its creation in 2008, the EUA Council for Doctoral Education has been leading the transformation of doctoral education in Europe, facilitating the impact of universities on European policy developments. It has been the driving force behind the implementation of the Salzburg Principles and Recommendations, promoting doctoral education as the main intersection between the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and the European Research Area (ERA) and reaffirmed its commitment to this with “Taking Salzburg forward”. It is the largest European network in this field, covering more than 30 countries and bringing together a community of academic leaders and professionals from over 230 universities awarding doctoral degrees and institutions working on issues related to doctoral education and research training.

Registrations and a call for contributions for the Annual Meeting will launch in February 2018. If you are curious to learn about previous annual meetings, see <http://eua-cde.org/activities.html>

4. Building Bridges for a Career outside academia – EURAXIND workshops series concluded

FFG is currently involved in the project “Euraxind – Increasing industry engagement with the EURAXESS Network”. The aim of this project is to develop online resources to foster cooperation between the academic sector and “industry”, the latter being understood in a broad sense, pointing out to all fields of future workplaces for researchers outside the academic sector, e.g. industry, SMEs, government, NGO’s, charities and cultural institutions like musea. The online tools are (1) a career development module for guidance in career planning outside the academic sector and (2) an employers’ engagement toolkit for academic institutions to support them linking up with industry. Both resources will later on be integrated into the EURAXESS portal.

A central part of the development are 14 workshops conducted in seven countries (Austria, Spain, UK, Hungary, Bulgaria, Israel, Netherlands), set up in each country for representatives from academic institutions (institutional workshop focusing on career development services within academic institutions) and employers (employers’ workshops focusing on the perspectives and needs from industry). The two workshops in Austria were held under the motto „Building Bridges for a Career outside Academia” (November 2017 and January 2018). For the institutional workshop, several approaches to support researchers careers outside academic were presented, e.g. with a perspective from Vitae – Realizing the Potential of Researchers (Cambridge), the Unit of Research Service and Career Development (University of Vienna), the Potsdam Graduate School (University of Potsdam) and the Career Center at Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft (Vienna). Central to the employers workshop was a discussion of career paths between academia and industry, and approaches how more flexible paths allowing moves between the different sectors can be supported by employers.

If you are interested to learn more about EURAXIND, its outcomes and further developments, or would like to know more about EURAXESS, please contact ylva.huber@ffg.at and lil.reif@ffg.at.

5. Upcoming events

- [FFG Webinar on MSCA for companies and the non-academic sector, 25 January 2018, 10 am](#)
- [FFG COST webinar 26 February 2018, 2 pm CET](#)
- [FFG Academy: Proposal writing for MSCA Individual Fellowships \(IF\), 24-25 April 2018, Vienna](#)

6. Open vacancies and other opportunities

- **Social Scientist at the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy, Deadline: 5 February 2018**

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), based in Parma, Italy, is currently looking for a Social Scientist (Temporary Agent - Grade AD6). EFSA is the keystone of European Union risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks. The successful candidate will identify where social science advice, research and analysis can be of added value for EFSA's communication initiatives and projects. The job holder will build effective relationships with science and communication colleagues to provide social science based support and advice to commission research projects and to improve the impact of EFSA's communications. Deadline for application is 5 February 2018 at midnight (local time, GMT +1), further details for the application process, formal criteria of candidates etc. can be found here: <https://careers.efsa.europa.eu/jobs/social-scientist-67>

- **15 Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) for the Innovative Training Network "PERFORM" on Digital Retail, various locations in Sweden, Austria, Ireland, Germany and the Netherlands; Deadline 8 February 2018**

PERFORM, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network (ITN) launching in 2018 will offer 15 PhD positions in five European countries. Research projects within PERFORM focus on creating a coherent customer experience for Digital Retail by combining online and traditional offline retail to an integrated Omnichannel system addressing the following 4 research objectives: (i) develop sustainable business models for the Digital Retail sector, (ii) increase the customer experience along the customer journey, (iii) investigate the use of emerging technologies to build innovative Digital Retail services and (iv) develop a comprehensive knowledge base on Digital Retail operations and analytics. The project will prepare the next generation of Digital Retail Managers and tackle digital retail challenges through a combination of training and research. PhD candidates will get a unique international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral training in scientific and transferable skills by distinguished leaders from academia and industry. More information on the project can be found on our website: <http://www.perform-network.eu>. For a detailed overview of the scope and location of the PhD positions see http://www.perform-network.eu/?page_id=300

Deadline for application is 8 February 2018, the preferred starting date for all positions is 1 September 2018. For more information, see <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/263100>.

- **2 PhD positions ESR positions at InoCure s.r.o., Prague, Czech Republic, Deadline 1 February 2018**

Within the ITN “transMed”, there are currently two ESR positions open for application at the company InoCure s.r.o., for candidates interested and experienced in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer modelling, chemical engineering and/or nanotechnology. InoCure s.r.o. is a SME focused on development of advanced nanomaterials for life science use. InoCure laboratory is located in Prague and enables realization of advanced engineering and nanotechnological projects. Please note that both positions will be connected with an enrolment in a PhD program at the Technical University in Liberec, which is a top university in the field of electrospinning and nanotechnology.

The first research position is focused on the development of novel drug delivery systems by cutting-edge electrospinning technologies. The position will be focused on development of novel drug delivery systems, characterization of particle properties, testing and modelling of pharmacological conditions, writing of publications, patents and product development including regulatory requirement.

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/260577>

The focus of the second position is on the development of novel devices and drug delivery systems in ophthalmological applications, i.e. development of novel electrospinning and electro spraying systems, characterization of particle properties, simulation of electrospinning and electro spraying using computer modelling, practical electrical and mechanical engineering, programming of advanced automation technologies, writing of publications, patents and product development including regulatory requirement.

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/260574>

Both positions are part of the ITN transMed, which is focused on the development of novel treatments for retinal degeneration. The consortium develops network of PhD students with interconnected topics covering full range from drug development, evaluation on basic cell models, in vitro and in vivo testing, upscaling to pharmaceutical production and clinical testing. All involved PhD students will participate in seminars, webinars, secondments and hands on courses under the project. The involved institutions are Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen (DE), Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia (IT), Lunds Universitet (SE), Haskoli Islands (IS), SP Process Development (SE), Oculis (IS), PamGene (NL) and InoCure (CZ). For more information visit www.inocure.eu.

Deadline for application is for both positions 1 February 2018.

- **4 ESR positions in Israel, for EuroAgeism project, Deadline 28 February 2018**

The EuroAgeism ITN is seeking 4 highly skilled, excellent early stage researchers (ESRs) for a 3-year fully funded Ph.D. program starting May-October 2018. The overall goal of the program is to bridge science and policy in the field of ageism and to produce professionals who can take a variety of positions, along the science-policy continuum. All four researchers will be registered for a Ph.D. at Bar Ilan University in Israel. The requested background of the students is from the following research areas: Psychology, sociology, social psychology, political sciences, social work, economy, clinical pharmacy, engineering, design, social networks, geography, nursing, gerontology, gender studies, labor studies, anthropology, law and related fields.

EuroAgeism is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie – Innovative Training Network (ITN) coordinated by Bar Ilan University. The consortium is composed of academic, governmental, non-governmental, inter-governmental, and health and social care organizations. Countries involved in the consortium include Israel, the Czech Republic, Poland, Sweden, Finland, the U.K., the Netherlands and Belgium. ESRs also are expected to attend internships (secondments) in various academic and non-academic institutions, located in Ireland, the U.K., Israel, Belgium, Austria, and Switzerland.

Further information, including the application process and the scope of the four projects project, visit: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/262628> or get in touch with Liat.Ayalon@biu.ac.il.

Deadline for application is for both positions 28 February 2018.

- **More job offers on EURAXESS**

Many more job offers for experienced and early-stage researchers can be found on the EURAXESS website: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/search/>

- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Expression of Interest (EOI)**

If you are looking for a host institution to carry out an individual fellowship or for a partner institution to set up a MSCA Innovative Training Network or a RISE project, the following site can be of interest: <http://www.net4mobility.eu/eoi.html>

7. Good to know... in January: Tool for searching project partners

Have a project idea, found a call – but still looking for suiting partners? Discover the partner search facility on the Participant Portal for Horizon 2020, which allows to search for partners among organisations registered in the Beneficiary Register of the portal. You can search via keywords or a topic of a past call for proposals, by geographical criteria or by types of organisation. Of particular interest might be the opportunity to search for organisations which have expressed interest to participate in the context of open or forthcoming calls. Vice versa, the Legal Entity Appointed Representative of your institution (LEARs) can also create new partner search requests on behalf of your organisation.

https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/organisations/partner_search.html

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TIP: For researchers working at larger national research institutions or universities, please check also for institutional support, for example under http://www.forschungsservice.at/index_en.html

FFG: EUROPEAN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH CAREERS

<https://www.ffg.at/content/das-internationale-angebot-f-r-eine-karriere-forschung-und-entwicklung>

MSCA: <https://www.ffg.at/content/msca>

ERC: <https://www.ffg.at/erc>

EURAXESS: <https://www.euraxess.at/>

COST: <https://www.ffg.at/programme/cost>