

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

**November 2017**



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## Impressum

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## **1. Call for public and media events to promote research careers: NIGHT Call, deadline 14 February 2018**

The new call for proposals for the European Researchers' Night (overall budget 12 Mio EUR) is open now, with the deadline being 14 February 2018. Funding is provided for public and media events for the promotion of research careers, to increase awareness among the general public of the importance of research and innovation, for a better understanding of the key benefits that research brings to society, including the reduction of stereotypes about researchers and their professions. The European Researchers' Night takes place yearly, typically on the last Friday of the month September and can last up to two full days and should be particularly geared towards young people and their families. Pre-events can also be organized during spring and summer, prior to the main event. As the year 2018 will be designated as the "European Year of Cultural Heritage", applicants are encouraged to include activities in their events related to cultural heritage. Proposals should cover two editions of the NIGHT in successive years, but single editions will be considered as well. Learn more about the European Researchers' Night and previously funded events:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/researchersnight/index\\_en.htmText](http://ec.europa.eu/research/researchersnight/index_en.htmText)

Related to this call, a NIGHT infoday will take place in Brussels on December 14th, informing about the policy context and expectations as well as the scope of the programme and evaluation criteria. The slides presented during the meeting will be made available on the European Researchers' Night website after the event. More information on the agenda and how to register can be found here:

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/events/2017/save-date-european-researchers-night-infoday\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/events/2017/save-date-european-researchers-night-infoday_en)

## **2. Funding for Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE): Call open, deadline 21 March 2018**

The new call for proposals in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action "Research and Innovation Staff Exchange" (RISE) is open, with deadline on 21 March 2017. The overall budget of this call is 80 Mio. EUR. In the last calls, success rates were around 25%. Financial support is provided for the development of partnerships in the form of a joint research and innovation project with funding for knowledge sharing via international as well as intersectoral secondments of research and innovation staff. In addition, research, training and networking activities and management / overheads ("institutional costs") are funded. RISE follows a bottom-up approach, which means that topics of the proposed action are chosen by the applicants. RISE is a good funding scheme to interact and exploit complementary competences with organisations from the academic and the non-academic sector in other countries. It provides funding for staff secondments between 1 and 12 months / staff member (2.100 EUR/month of secondment, max. 540 months of secondments per project) and 2.500 EUR for institutional costs per seconded month, with a maximum budget of 2.48 Mio. EUR per project, of which 972.000 EUR are for research, training and networking costs. Please note that from this call on, the eligibility criteria for seconded staff members are more flexible – being linked to the institution for at least 1 month prior secondment is enough (previously 6 months full time equivalent). For projects with Austrian host institutions FFG offers proposal checks. For more information, see:

<https://www.ffg.at/europa/h2020/msca/rise>

### **3. In a Nutshell: Changes of the MSCA work programme 2018 – 2020**

The European Commission has recently published an info sheet with a short overview of all changes in the MSCA work programme 2018 – 2020, for example the special needs allowance for funded researchers with a disability, a longer duration of IF projects in the panel Career Restart, higher level of funding for the living costs, optional introductory trainings for fellows, a more flexible rule on long-term residency for researchers from third-countries, or less strict conditions for eligible secondments in the RISE scheme – just to name some. For all changes in a nutshell, see:

[https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/sites/mariecurie/files/msca-wp-2018-2020\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/sites/mariecurie/files/msca-wp-2018-2020_en.pdf)

### **4. Reading tip: Study of Business Participation and Entrepreneurship in MSCA**

The European Commission published a study of business participation and entrepreneurship in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. As the study shows, main motivation for larger companies was the access to highly skilled potential employees and the opportunity to expand their collaborative network, whereas SMEs were more interested in advancing their product development and boosting the capacities of their research units. Other main motivating factors were to increase visibility in the market, to finance fundamental research projects and to showcase the company's research excellence. The study reveals several barriers for business participation, for example the reluctance to dedicate resources to write a proposal with a small chance of success, the fear that academic institutions have little to offer in terms of applied research or that they were worried about the protection of their intellectual property. For the full study as well as the executive version for those with little time, see:

<https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/decfab92-5ae2-11e7-954d-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-search>

### **5. EURAXESS Meeting Point Vienna**

There is a new networking opportunity in Vienna for PhD students, postdocs and researchers, including their families: the platform EURAXESS Meeting Point VIENNA. It offers tools to support exchange and social integration of international researchers in Vienna. Find out more via <https://www.euraxess.at/austria/euraxess-meeting-point-vienna>

### **6. Open vacancies and other opportunities**

- **Incoming Fellowships to prepare applications for Individual Fellowships in MSCA or an ERC Starting / Consolidator Grant with the Austrian Academy of Science, Austria**

OeAW offers funding to international incoming fellows intending to submit a MSCA or an ERC Starting/ Consolidator Grant and choosing ÖAW as their host institution. Reimbursement up to a maximum of € 8,100 per fellow is awarded (max. €2,700 per month for a max. of 3 months, plus reimbursement of actual travel costs for 1 return trip; the research visits may however comprise of one single trip or several short trips). Contact: [grantservice@oeaw.ac.at](mailto:grantservice@oeaw.ac.at)

- **15 PhD positions (prae-doc) in the Innovative Training Network AQUALity, various countries**

The Innovative Training Network “Interdisciplinary cross-sectoral approach to effectively address the removal of contaminants of emerging concern from water” (AQUALity) invites early stage researchers to apply for one of 15 PhD positions in a network comprising 7 universities, 3 research institutes and 8 companies. The overall aim is to develop highly innovative hybrid green technologies for CECs removal from aqueous systems by unconventional solar advanced oxidation processes (AOP) in combination with high flux ceramic nanofiltration membranes. Early stage researchers will conduct frontier research in the field of AOP (organic photocatalysis, sensitized photocatalysts, photo-Fenton), materials development, nanofiltration technology, and will develop innovative hybrid photochemical/membranes systems to be tested on different waters to prove their potential for the production of high-quality water. Advanced analytical tools for the determination of CECs, their degradation products and water safeness will be developed. With the support of industrial participants, AQUALity aims for the commercial exploitation of part of the research results. Fulltime employment for PhD students is offered for 3 years. The starting date of the contract is negotiable, ideally 1 February 2018. Further eligibility conditions, details about involved institutions and the scope of the 15 subprojects can be found here: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/259769>

- **Career-FIT: Call open for 25 Career Development Fellowships (post-doc) in the National Technology Centre Programme, Ireland**

Enterprise Ireland invites applicants to its Marie Skłodowska-Curie cofunded postdoctoral fellowship programme that offers an opportunity for experienced researchers from outside Ireland to develop their careers in market focused applied research through 3 year fellowships in Ireland’s Technology Centres, with an enterprise secondment from 6-12 months in an Enterprise Ireland client company. Covering a wide range of academic and industry areas aligned with Ireland’s Smart Specialisation Strategy, the 15 Technology Centres involved in this programme were established to encourage greater efficiency in the interaction between researchers, industry, and the public sector, in research that promotes economic growth by its direct relevance to industry agendas. The deadline for application is 30 April 2018. More information can be found via <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/181263>

- **LEaDing fellows Postdoc programme: Call open for 40 post-doc positions, Netherlands**

The ‘LEaDing Fellows Postdoc Programme’ will provide 40 researchers who have recently obtained a PhD with the opportunity to gain two years of work experience in the challenging, internationally acclaimed and multidisciplinary environment offered by Leiden University, Leiden University Medical Center, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Erasmus Medical Center and Delft University of Technology. Applicants can propose a project of their own choice in Humanities and Social Sciences, Physical Sciences and Engineering, and Life Sciences, depending on the disciplines that the participating organisations offer. Fellows will benefit from structured career development by undertaking training (in both research and transferable skills) and having the opportunity to undertake visits or internships at one of the four other LEaDing fellows partners or linked industry or non-academic partners.

Deadline for application is 10 January 2018. The selection process takes place between January and July 2018. By 1 August 2018 applicants will be informed about the results. Further information can be found at <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/256229>

- **Job opening for an early stage researcher (prae-doc) in computer science, Budapest**

The SME Holografika invites applications for the position of an Early Stage Researcher (ESR) within the QoE-Net Innovative Training Network (ITN). Holografika is a Hungarian venture active in the field of emerging photonic technologies, it invented and developed a proprietary light-field technology in glasses-free 3D visualisation, including real 3D display devices, software applications, cameras and 3D data compression solutions, it holds several patents and trademarks. Its R&D activities focus on developing next generation holographic 3D displays and inherent 3D applications in different fields of industries e.g. health, car-design, broadcasting, etc. The position is of interest for candidates with a master's degree in computer science, electrical engineering, telecommunications or similar, with an excellent background in computer science, familiarity with SoA computer hardware, strong mathematical and programming skills, preferably in C++. Familiarity with 3D displays, video coding or FPGA programming are considered as major advantages. Excellent communication skills (both written and oral) in English; Hungarian communication skills are a plus. Expected start date: 1st December 2017. Due to the deadline EU citizens or EU working visa holders have an advantage. See: <http://www.holografika.com/Company/Career.html#ESR12#1>

- **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 November: the Reflex App**

This month we would like to draw your attention to a nice tool called “Reflex App”. Based on input from practices of various institutions and approaches in different European countries, this tool was developed to help universities and research institutes to develop institutional strategies and activities for supporting researchers’ career development.

<https://euraxess-reflex.saia.sk/en/main/reflex-app/>

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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](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>