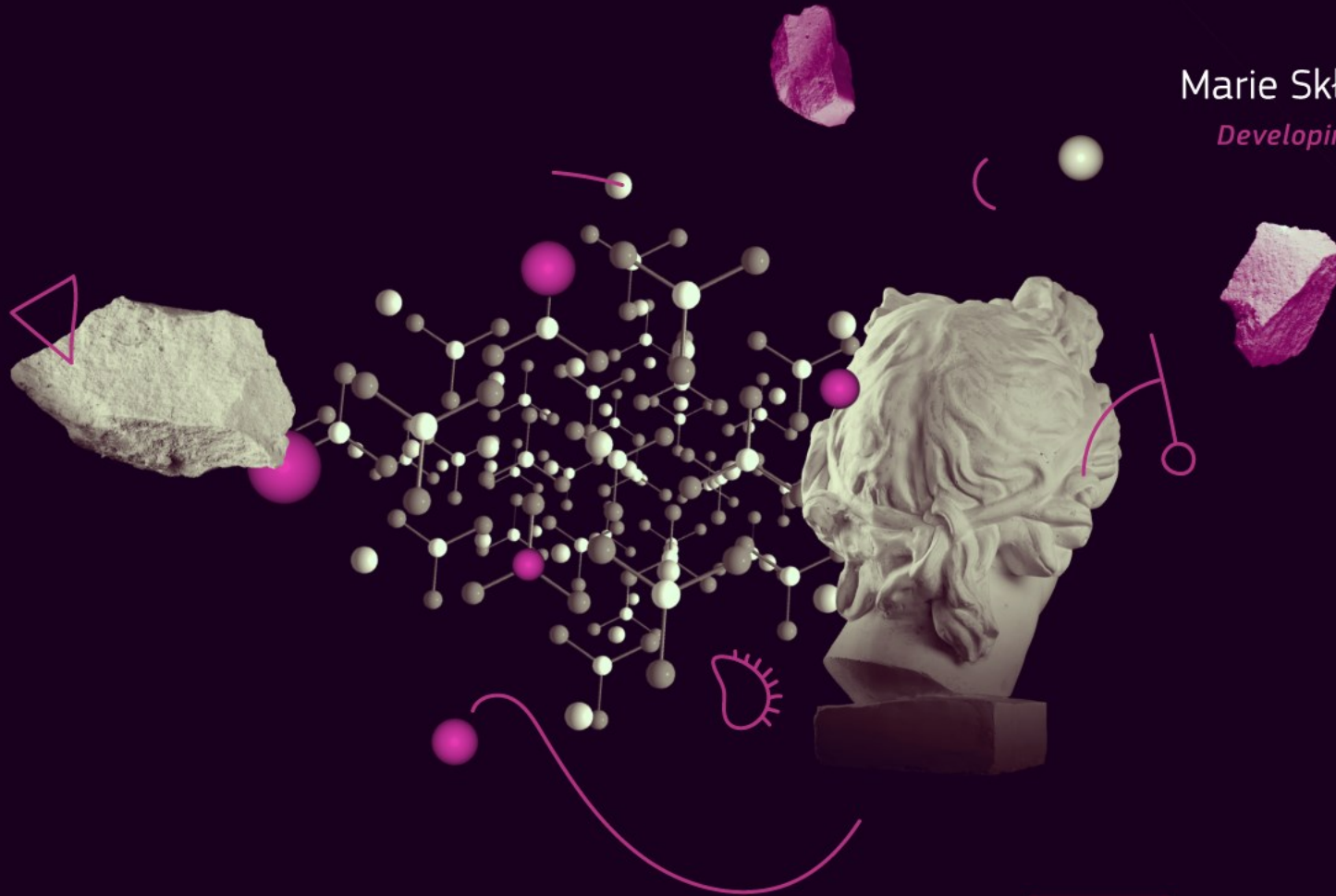




MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions 2024: Overview

Anouk Lafortune

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions unit

DG EAC, European Commission

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Horizon Europe

EURATOM

EU FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION



Pillar I
EXCELLENT SCIENCE

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures



Pillar II
GLOBAL CHALLENGES &
EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL
COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



Pillar III
INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation
Council

European Innovation
Ecosystems

European Institute of
Innovation & Technology*

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint
Research
Center

2021-2027

Budget: EUR 95.5 billion

Pillar I: Excellent Science

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

European Research Council

Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams

€16 billion

Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)

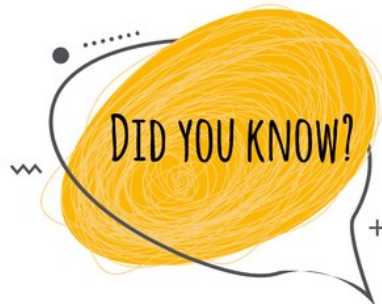
Equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills through mobility and training

€6.6 billion

Research Infrastructures

Integrated and inter-connected world-class research infrastructures

€2.4 billion



18 Nobel Prize winners either backed by or involved in the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions between 2013 and 2023



Key features



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, inter-sectoral (academic/non-academic) & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations + strategic international partnerships



Fostering collaboration beyond academia, notably with industry

Other policy priorities



Equal opportunities, diversity and inclusiveness



Open Science and responsible R&I



Academic freedom & freedom of scientific research



Quality supervision



Support to reform of research assessment



Environmental sustainability

MSCA under Horizon Europe

The MSCA have **5** main actions

Doctoral Networks

implement doctoral programmes (including joint doctorates and industrial doctorates) **by international partnerships** of organisations from different sectors. They train highly-skilled doctoral candidates, stimulate their creativity, enhance their innovation capacities and boost their employability in the long-term.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research and innovation.

Researchers holding a PhD can carry out their research activities, acquire new skills and develop their careers abroad, whilst developing competences in non-academic sectors and working within interdisciplinary teams.

Staff Exchanges

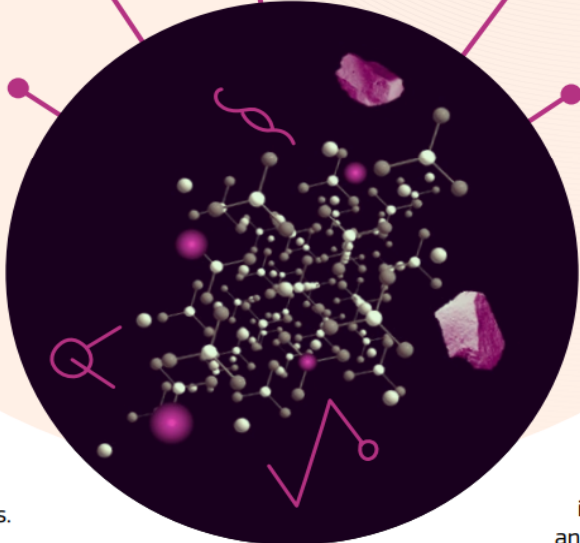
encourage short-term international and inter-sectoral exchanges of research and innovation staff through sustainable, collaborative projects in Europe and beyond. By doing so, they enhance knowledge and skills transfer and increase organisations' research and innovation capacities.

MSCA and Citizens

brings research and researchers closer to children, families and the public at large through the European Researchers' Night - the annual research communication and promotion event taking place at the end of September across EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries.

COFUND

co-finances regional, national and international doctoral and postdoctoral programmes for researchers' training and career development. The COFUND action spreads MSCA's best practices by setting high standards and excellent working conditions, and boosts training and international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility.



[Home | Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(europa.eu\)](#)

CLICK HERE



Horizon 2020: key figures (2014-2020)

+65,000

Researchers,
including 25,000
PhD candidates

37%

Researchers
from outside of
the EU

6.2 billion €
Under Horizon
2020

+1,000

Doctoral
programmes

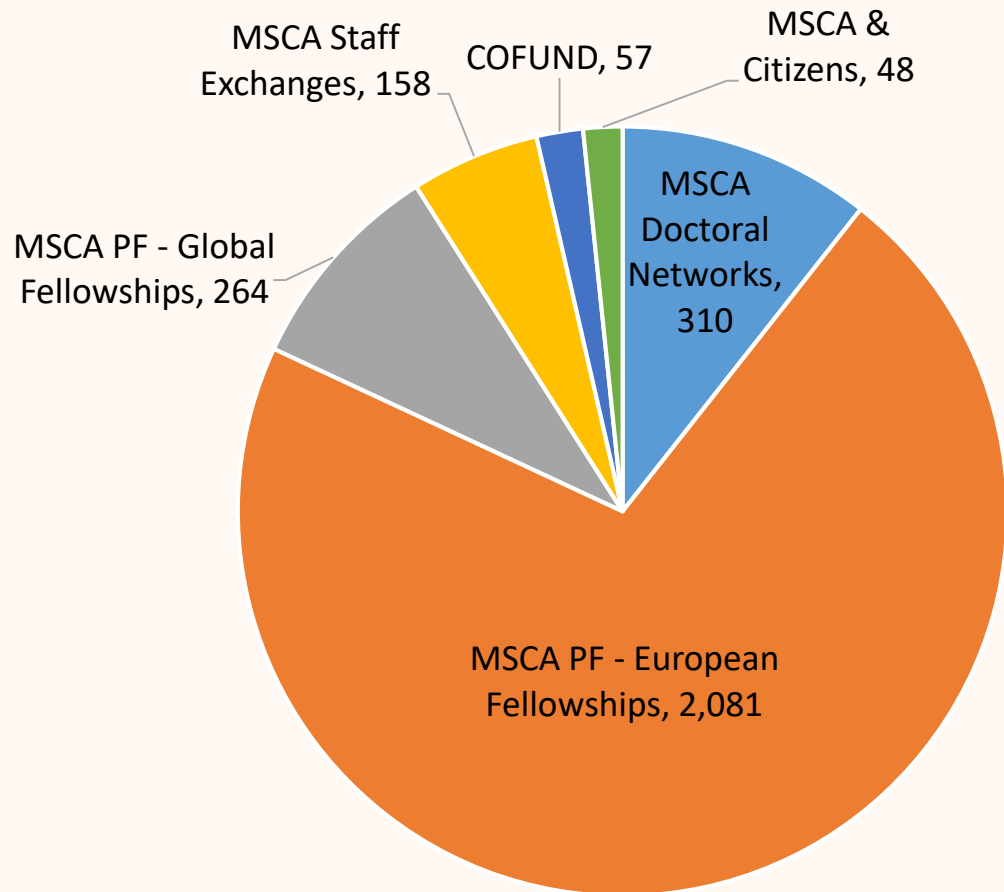
+4,500

Companies
supported

42%

Female
researchers

MSCA under Horizon Europe (2021-2022)



Number of signed projects under Horizon Europe (2021-2022)

- Nearly 3000 funded projects involving around 4600 distinct organisations, including over 2700 from the non-academic sector

Greek & Cypriot participation in MSCA under HE (2021-2022):

- 141 funded projects involving Greek & Cypriot organisations, including 59 Doctoral Networks, 39 Staff Exchanges, 31 MSCA PF and 10 COFUND
- 116 distinct Greek & Cypriot organisations involved in funded projects
- 57 Greek & Cypriot researchers funded under MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

Novelties in 2023 and 2024 MSCA calls

As of 2023 calls:

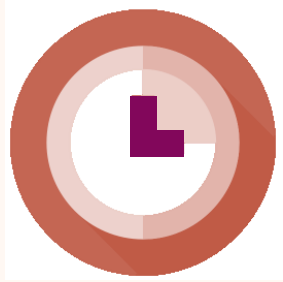
- Grant size of doctoral networks: up to 540 person-month
- Incentives for Joint Doctorates:
 - Project duration: up to 60 months (48 months for the others)
 - Fellowship duration: up to 48 months (36 for the others)

Novelties for 2024 calls*

** Conditional until adoption of the revised Horizon Europe 2023-2025 work programme*

- Joint Doctorates: only one of the two degree-awarding universities has to be EU MS or AC. JD with only one third country now eligible
- New definition resubmission rule for doctoral networks
- New call calendar
- MSCA unit contributions reviewed
- Ex-aequo cases: New environmental considerations in line with MSCA Green Charter criteria

MSCA Doctoral Networks



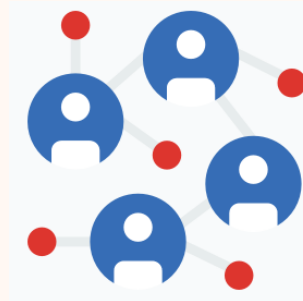
DURATION

Max 4 years
(max 5 years for Joint
Doctorates only)



COMPOSITION

Min 3 organisations in 3
different EU MS or HE
AC (at least 1 MS*)



FELLOWSHIP

Between 3 and 36
months
(up to 48 months for Joint
Doctorates only)



BUDGET

540 PM



Next call: 29 May 2024 – 27 Nov 2024 ; 608.6 M€*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

Selected projects **must advertise their vacancies** for **doctoral researchers** widely, including on [Euraxess](#) portal

MSCA Doctoral Networks

- **Multi-beneficiary action** to set up innovative **doctoral programmes**, including:
 - **Industrial Doctorates**
 - Training in academia and industry
 - Joint supervision
 - **Joint Doctorates**
 - Joint collaborations leading to a joint/double/multiple doctoral degree
 - Joint selection, supervision and governance structure
 - Pre-agreement for joint degrees required
- **Recruited researchers:**
 - **doctoral candidates**, i.e. researchers without a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment; mandatory enrolment in a doctoral programme in at least 1 EU MS/AC
 - **researchers apply to vacancies published** by the institutions participating in the projects
- **Focus on career development plan, supervision, training:** research and transferable skills
- **Who applies?**
 - **consortia** of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors; each beneficiary to recruit at least 1 researcher
 - at least **three independent legal entities**, each established in a different MS or AC; minimum of 1 beneficiary from a MS (on top of this minimum, any entity from any third country can join)
 - **Resubmission restrictions** for applications receiving a score **below 80%** in the previous call

EU contribution*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

1 unit
=
1 person/month



Researcher unit cost	Institutional unit cost	
"top-up allowance"	Research, training and networking	Management and indirect costs
4010€ (living allowance)* 710 € (mobility allowance) 660 € (family allowance)**	1600 €	1200 €

* adjusted through the application of a country correction coefficient

**if applicable, as well as long term leave allowance or special needs allowance

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships



One postdoctoral
researcher



Host Institution



Supervisor

For **European Fellowships**:

Beneficiary from EU MS or HE AC

For **Global Fellowships**:

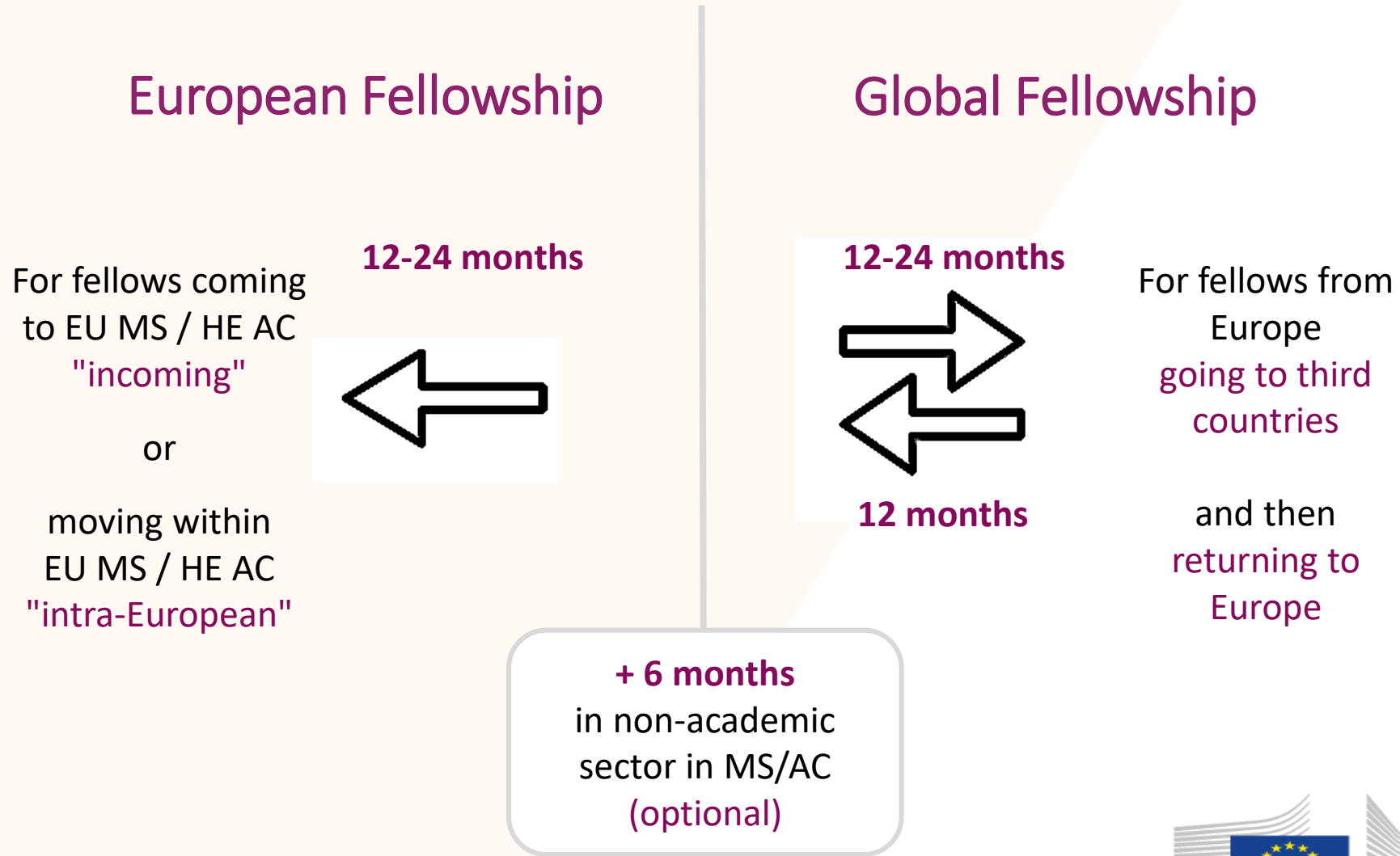
Beneficiary + 1 Third Country Associated
Partner



Next call: 23 Apr 2024 – 11 Sep 2024 ; 417.2 M€*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships: How it works?



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships: Who can apply?



Postdoctoral researcher

- Have obtained a PhD at the date of the call deadline
- No age restriction
- Maximum 8 years (full-time) research experience since award of the (first) doctoral degree



Any Nationality

- Except for Global Fellowships: the researcher must be a national or long-term resident (5 years) of an EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Country



Mobility rule

- Must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the beneficiary (for European Fellowships) or associated partner (for Global Fellowships) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline

Resubmission

- Restrict resubmissions with score less than 70% to the following year

EU contribution*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

1 unit
=
1 person/month



Researcher unit cost	Institutional unit cost	
"top-up allowance"	Research, training and networking	Management and indirect costs
5990 € (living allowance)*	1000 €	650 €
710 € (mobility allowance)		
660 € (family allowance)**		

* adjusted through the application of a country correction coefficient

**if applicable, as well as long term leave allowance or special needs allowance

ERA Fellowships 2024

The ERA Fellowships are open for applicants of **any nationality** with a **beneficiary from a Widening Country**.

Budget: €8M (~50 projects)

How does it work?

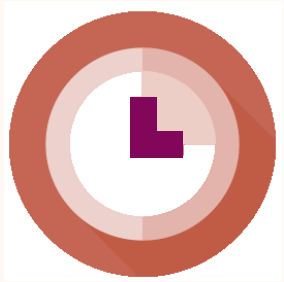
- Global Fellowships are not eligible
- Applicants need to **opt in at application stage** (there will be no other opportunity later on)
- Around 50 excellent proposals (i.e. on the reserve list) that cannot be funded by MSCA due to budget constraints will be offered an ERA Fellowship

Which countries are concerned?

Member States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and outermost regions - Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Martinique, Mayotte and Saint-Martin (France) and the Canary Islands (Spain).

Associated Countries: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine; and in process of association: Morocco

MSCA Staff Exchanges



DURATION

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)



Next Calls: 19 Sept 2024 – 5 Feb 2025; 99.47M€*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

Eligible exchanges

		"HOSTING" (receiving seconded staff members)		
		Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	Organisation in TC*
"SENDING" (seconding staff members from organisation)	Academic organisation in MS/AC (1)	$\frac{1}{3}$	✓	✓
	Non-academic organisation in MS/AC (2)	✓	$\frac{1}{3}$	✓
	Organisation in TC*	✓	✓	✗

$\frac{1}{3}$ This symbol refers to same sector secondments up to 1/3 of the total implemented secondments funded by the EU as long as they are demonstrated to be interdisciplinary.

* denotes TC partners that are eligible for automatic funding

EU contribution*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

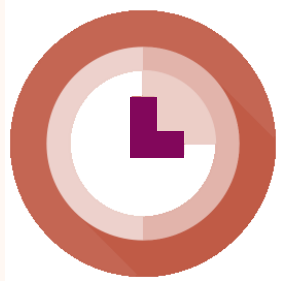
1 unit
=
1 person/month

Researcher unit cost	Institutional unit cost	
"top-up allowance"**	Research, training and networking	Management and indirect costs
2710 €	1300 €	1000 €



**as well as special needs allowance, if applicable

MSCA COFUND



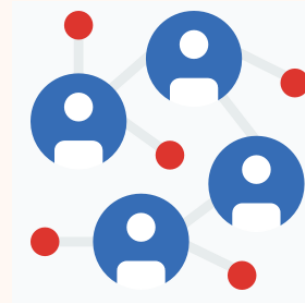
DURATION

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



Next Call: 23 Apr – 26 Sep 2024; 104.8M€*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

Selected projects **must advertise their vacancies** for **doctoral researchers** widely, including on [Euraxess](#) portal

MSCA COFUND – Unit contributions*

* Conditional until adoption of the revision of the MSCA WP 2023-2025

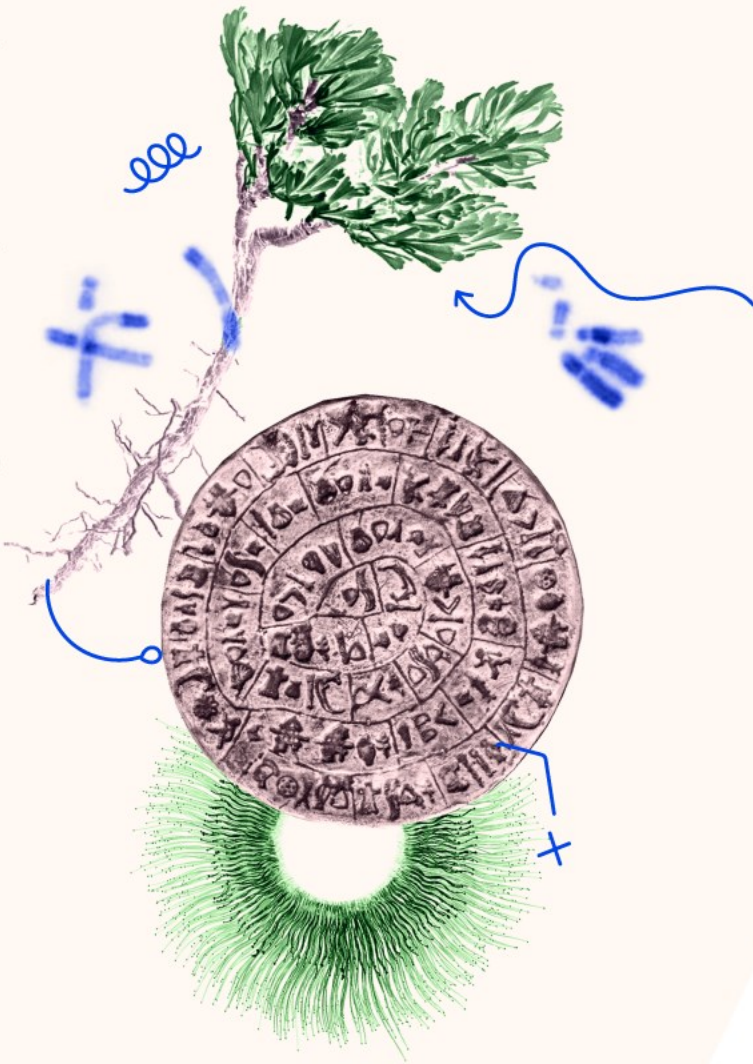
Contributions for recruited researchers and institutional contributions

Per person-month

	COFUND allowance	Long-term leave allowance (if applicable)	Special needs allowance (if applicable)
Doctoral Programmes	EUR 3 300 ¹	EUR 3 300 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ² x (1/number of months)
Postdoctoral Programmes	EUR 4 700 ¹	EUR 4 700 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit ² x (1/number of months)

¹These amount are also the minimum gross remuneration applicable for researchers recruited under the programmes

²The 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.



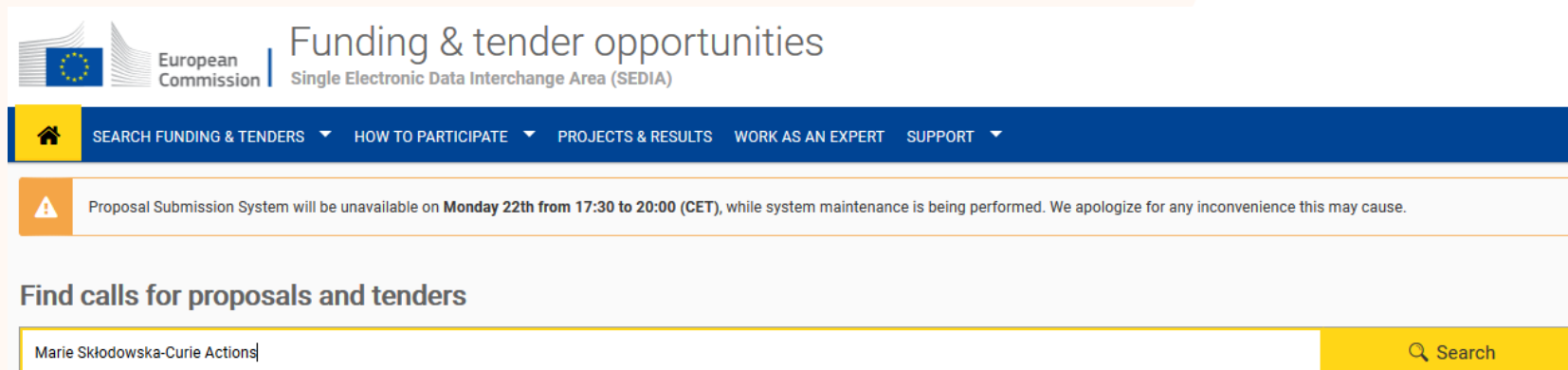
MSCA Seal of Excellence

- Under MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships and COFUND
- The [Seal of Excellence](#) is awarded to **applications achieving a score of 85% or above** not retained for funding under MSCA PF and COFUND
- Quality label, helping recipients to attract other potential funders
- **Specific support schemes** exist for MSCA Seal of Excellence holders. You will find the complete list [here](#)

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/>



European Commission | Funding & tender opportunities
Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▾ HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▾ PROJECTS & RESULTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT ▾

⚠ 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.

Find calls for proposals and tenders

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Looking for a host organisation?

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)
- **NEW !** : MSCA-Net's [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)

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
- Submit specific queries to the **Research Enquiry Service** (funding, validation of participants, etc.)

Other useful links

- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website**
https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en
- **Factsheet, Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, 2021-2027**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/128028>
- **Funding and Tenders Portal (applications, documents, partner search)**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon>
- **Horizon Europe MSCA Work Programmes**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/reference-documents?programmePeriod=2021-2027&frameworkProgramme=43108390>
- **European Charter and Code for Researchers**
<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs/charter-code-researchers>
- **MSCA Guidelines on Supervision**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/508311>
- **MSCA Green Charter**
<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2766/720690>
- **Horizon Dashboard**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon-dashboard>
- **Become an Expert**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>
- **Contact:** EAC-UNITE-C2@ec.europa.eu



@MSCActions



@Marie.Curie.Actions

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



Thank you!

#MSCA #HorizonEU

@MSCActions

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>



© European Union 2021

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. Image sources: [iStockphoto.com/Unsplash](https://www.istockphoto.com/)

