



**European Research Council**

Established by the European Commission

### **Highlight:**

## **Applications for ERC 2016 Starting Grants – Facts and figures**

26 November 2015

The competition for ERC 2016 Starting Grants closed for applications on 17 November 2015. The ERC has now released the initial facts and figures regarding this competition:

- Number of applicants levelled out: the ERC received 2935 applications, a slight increase (+0.5 %) from the previous Starting Grant call.
- The largest number of applications was submitted in the domain of Physical Sciences and Engineering (1299), followed by Life Sciences (854), and Social Science and Humanities (782). There has been a noticeable increase in the number of applications in Social Science and Humanities (+3%) and a decrease in Life Sciences (-3%).
- There were more female applicants: an increase from 34.5% to 36%. The rise was especially significant in Life Sciences: from 39% to 45%.
- There were more applicants based in countries covered by the ERC initiative to widen participation mainly in Central and Eastern Europe\*: 175 applications, a 9.3% increase.

The ERC Work Programme has earmarked €485 million for an estimated 335 Starting Grants in 2016. The ERC is now starting screening and evaluation of proposals. The selected projects will be announced in the second half of 2016.

### **More information**

[ERC Work Programme 2016](#)

[ERC website](#)

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