



European Research Council
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ERC Update

10 June 2014

2525 proposals in ERC Consolidator Grants competition

A total of 2525 proposals were submitted in the 2014 Consolidator Grant competition of the European Research Council (ERC), the second call under the new EU Framework Programme *Horizon 2020*. After last year's sharp rise (48%) in number of applications, which totalled 3679, the demand in the 2014 call represents a 31% decrease. The 2014 figures are comparable to the equivalent group in 2012.

ERC President Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon commented: *"I am pleased to see that, after a massively subscribed 2013 Consolidator Grant call, the demand is back to the level of the previous years. This also means that the success rate in this call is likely to be more encouraging, probably around 15%. This is good news. Although it is difficult to identify with certainty the reasons for these fluctuations, it is not unlikely that the new more restrictive re-submissions rules for ERC calls have played a role in this decrease"*.

Due to the past consistent increase in demand for ERC funding, the ERC Scientific Council decided to introduce new, stricter [re-application rules](#) for candidates in the 2014 ERC calls.

Research institutions in 38 countries are eligible to host ERC grantees under this call, compared to 41 last year (note especially that Switzerland is not associated to the current EU research programme Horizon 2020).

In this call, the distribution by the three ERC domains was as follows: 1201 proposals were submitted in 'Physical Sciences and Engineering', 797 in 'Life Sciences' and 527 in 'Social Sciences and Humanities'.

In this year's call, the overall call budget is €713 Million, which means a success rate of around 15%, allowing funding of approximately 400 grants. In 2013, 312 top researchers were awarded grants of nearly €575 Million in total, with a success rate of 8.5%.



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Since last year, the ERC Starting Grant scheme is split in two: the new ERC Consolidator Grant for researchers with over 7 and up to 12 years of experience after their PhD and the ERC Starting Grant, targeted at researchers with at least 2 and up to 7 years after their PhD. Prior to that, an equivalent division was present in two different streams within the Starting Grants.

The 2014 Consolidator Grant call closed on 20 May and the results are expected to be published in the first quarter of 2015.

For more information

[ERC website](#)

[Announcement on 2014 Starting Grant call](#)