



Highlight:

The European Research Council (ERC) visits Bulgaria: discussing science and promoting participation

24 April 2012

From 26 to 27 April 2012, the Bulgarian Ministry of Education, Youth and Science, led by Minister Prof. Sergei Ignatov, will host the 35th Plenary Session of the ERC's Scientific Council in Sofia.

ERC President Prof. Helga Nowotny said: *"The visit to Bulgaria is part of our wider awareness raising efforts to promote the ERC's funding opportunities in Central and Eastern European countries, which so far are less present in the ERC's grant competitions. We are very keen to see more top talent from this region participate in our future calls."*

A **press conference** with Minister Ignatov and ERC President Nowotny will take place on **26 April at 10.30am** at the Grand Hotel Sofia. (The press conference will be held in Bulgarian and English.) To register; please see the press contacts below.

On **27 April 2012 at 2pm**, an **Information Event** will be held in the Grand Hotel Sofia. During the session, introduced by Minister Ignatov and President Nowotny, ERC representatives will highlight the ERC's funding opportunities and explain the steps of the selection process. Three Bulgarian grantees will share their experiences. The goal of the event is to encourage both younger talent and more senior scientists in Bulgaria to apply for ERC funding and to increase their chances of success.

There are currently three ERC grantees based in Bulgarian host institutions. Their total funding amounts to around € 3.3 million.

The ERC Scientific Council has already held meetings in several countries in this region and information events have taken place in Hungary, Poland, Latvia and Romania.

Links

ERC Website: <http://erc.europa.eu>

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