



European Research Council

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Highlight

ERC 2016 grant competition for mid-career researchers opens

15 October 2015

The ERC has today opened the next competition for its Consolidator Grants. More than €600 million is earmarked for an estimated 335 grants. The deadline for submission of research proposals is 2 February 2016.

ERC Consolidator Grants are designed to support excellent individual researchers who have 7 to 12 years of experience since the completion of their PhD, and are consolidating their own independent research team. Applicants must demonstrate the ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility of their scientific proposals.

The competition is open to researchers worldwide of any nationality and in any scientific area, including social sciences and humanities. Candidates must apply together with any university or research institution based in Europe.

The maximum value of a Consolidator Grant is €2 million for a period of five years. Up to €750,000 can be additionally requested to cover the researcher's costs of moving to Europe with the grant, or to purchase major equipment or access large facilities.

More information

[Participants Portal – Call for proposals for ERC Consolidator Grants](#)

[ERC Consolidator Grants](#)

[The latest Consolidator Grant results](#)

[ERC Work Programme 2016](#)

[ERC funded projects](#)

[ERC website](#)

Background

Set up in 2007 by the EU, the European Research Council (ERC) is the first European funding organisation for excellent frontier research. The ERC operates according to an "investigator-driven" (or "bottom-up") approach, allowing researchers to identify new opportunities in any field of research, without thematic priorities.

The ERC is led by an independent governing body, the Scientific Council, and, since January 2014, the ERC President is Prof. Jean-Pierre Bourguignon. The ERC Executive Agency implements the



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strategy, set by the Scientific Council. The ERC has a budget of over €13 billion from 2014 to 2020 and is part of the EU research and innovation programme, Horizon 2020, for which European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, Carlos Moedas is responsible.

To date, the ERC has funded more than 5,000 top researchers at a variety of stages in their careers, giving high priority to young scientists. The grantees employ over 40,000 scientists and other professionals as members of their research teams, who therefore benefit from cutting-edge research training opportunities.

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