



Press release

**The European Research Council concludes first Advanced Grant competition:
Full results**

7 November 2008

The ERC Scientific Council announces the results of the first ERC Advanced Grants competition, which has just been successfully concluded. The prestigious ERC Advanced Grant, of up to € 3.5 million for 5 years, is targeted at outstanding, established research leaders, who will perform their research in any EU member state or associated country. The Scientific Council expects that at least 275 grants will be awarded in this call, with a total budget of €542 million.

Results of the three domains - Physical Sciences and Engineering, Social Sciences and Humanities, and Life Sciences - have been published over the past months. Now the results of the evaluation of the Interdisciplinary Research domain have also been finalised. Furthermore, thanks to additional budget becoming available, another 19 grants are being awarded in these three earlier published domains. The domain lists have been updated accordingly.

In total 2167 proposals were submitted to this call. The average age of the grantees is 51 years, which reflects the solid experience of the target group of this grant scheme. The percentage of female grantees is around 12% with large variations between the different domains and panels. The top 275 grantees represent 26 nationalities and will be working in host institutions in 23 different countries. As regards researcher mobility, 6 grantees are moving to an EU member state or associated county from outside, to take up their grant. Of these, 3 are nationals of the USA.

The distribution of proposals per domain is the following: 41.5% in Physical Sciences and Engineering, 30.5% in Life Sciences, 17.5% in Social Sciences and Humanities and 10.5% in the Interdisciplinary Research domain.



As in the first Starting Grants competition a considerable number of proposals (some 340) passed the ERC's excellence threshold, but could not be funded due to budgetary constraints.

The ERC president Prof. Fotis Kafatos said:

"We are delighted to announce the final outcome of the first competition for ERC Advanced Grants. After meeting the challenge of making the first Starting Grant competition a success, we are very happy that the Advanced Grant competition also met our expectations. The Scientific Council is grateful for the major effort and diligence of the evaluation panels, and also the contribution of the remote specialist referees."

Background information:

275 proposals are expected to be funded. The four lists per domain show, in alphabetical order, the proposals to be invited for funding. If more budget becomes available, additional grants will be offered to candidates on the reserve lists (in yellow) in rank order.

Lists of results in the four domains

- http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/AdG1_06-11-08_PE.pdf
- http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/AdG1_06-11-08_SH.pdf
- http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/AdG1_06-11-08_LS.pdf
- http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/AdG1_06-11-08_interdisc.pdf

Statistics http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/AdG1-Statistics_06_11_08.pdf

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

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