



**News Release**

15 May 2008

**Signing of the first ERC Starting Grants**

The ERC announces that the first ERC Starting Grants are now being issued. The complete budget for this Starting Grant competition is ca. €335 million, which means that at least 297 proposals will be funded.

It is expected that most of the grant agreements will have been sent for signing by the end of June. Final statistics and a complete list of Starting Grant winners will be published after signing of all grants has been completed.

The next ERC Starting Grant call for proposals will be announced this summer, with deadlines throughout the autumn. For this call, the Scientific Council has decided to change the eligibility criterion regarding the number of years after the applicant completed a PhD to 3-8 years, instead of 2-9 years.

**For more information:**

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