



Amplifying Research Voices: The Role of the ERC Ambassador

ERC Ambassador to Greece
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ERC at a Glance

- Established in 2007 as part of FP7
- Mission: support investigator-driven frontier research
- Funding frontier research across all disciplines
- Empowering researchers to push boundaries

About ERC

Scientific freedom

- Scientific excellence as the sole criterion
- Support to the individual scientist – *no consortia!*
- No predetermined subjects – “*bottom-up*”
- International peer-review

ERC in figures



Over **14,000**
top researchers funded since
the ERC creation in 2007



Over **220,000**
articles from ERC projects published
in scientific journals



Over **100,000**
researchers and other professionals
employed in ERC research teams



Over **950** research institutions
hosting ERC grantees – universities,
public or private research centres in the
EU or Associated Countries



Over **2,400**
patents and other IPR applications
generated by ERC funding



93
nationalities of
grant holders



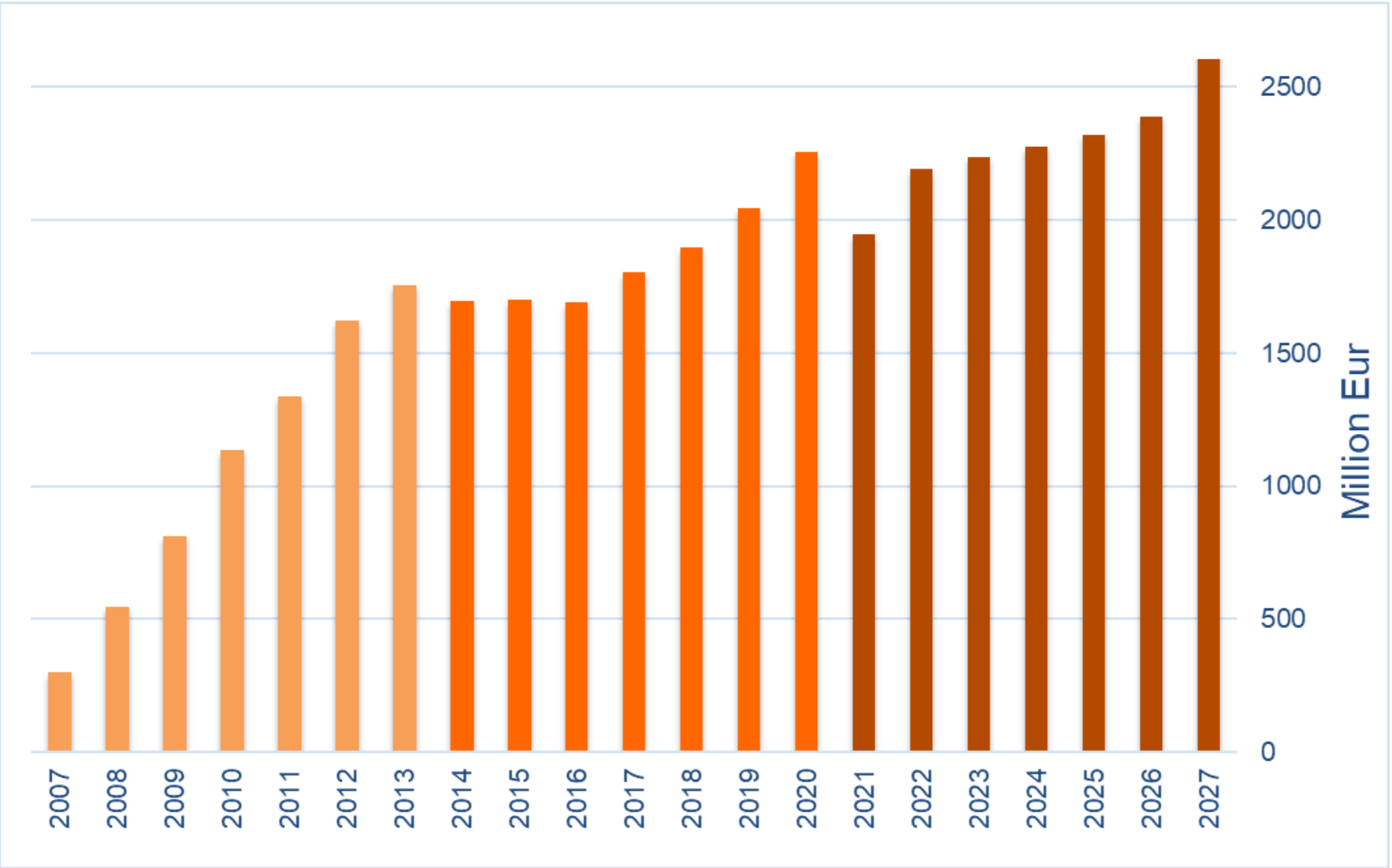
Over **400**
start-ups identified as founded
or co-founded by ERC grantees



14 Nobel Prizes, **6** Fields Medals, **11** Wolf Prizes
and other prizes awarded to ERC grantees

ERC budget 2007 – 2027: EUR 36.5 billion

- FP7: €7.5 billion
- H2020: €13 billion
- HE: €16 billion





Association of ERC Grantees



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

The ERC Ambassadors

The ERC and the Association of ERC Grantees (AERG) launched the new Ambassadors for the ERC network on 28 April 2025.

The role is completely voluntary



32 ERC grantees have been selected and nominated as Ambassadors for the ERC. Among them are 17 women and 15 men from 21 EU Member States as well as five Associated Countries



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The role of the ERC Ambassadors

- Advocate the Importance of Fundamental Research
*“funding frontier research is not optional,
it is essential for Europe's long-term health and prosperity”*
- Represent ERC at national and local level
- Bridge between ERC and Greek research community
- Work along ERC National Contact Points to disseminate information on opportunities and calls
- Promote ERC's mission and visibility
- Engage with Policy makers to secure additional funding for Fundamental Research

Amplifying Research Voices



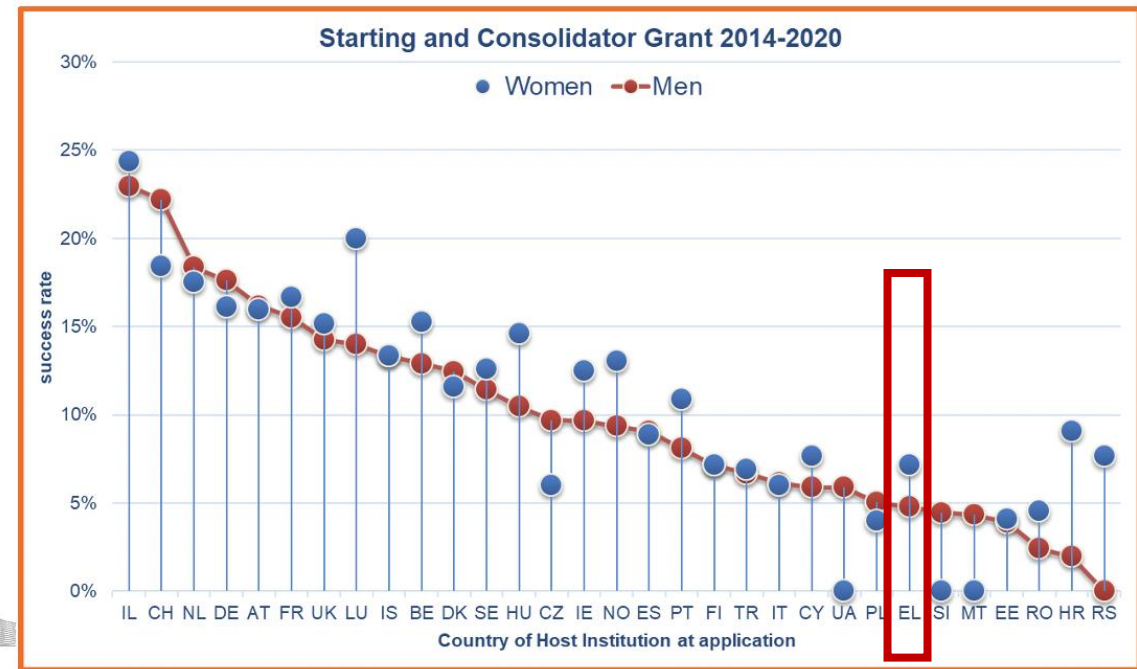
- Supporting researchers in accessing ERC opportunities
- Encouraging participation of young and established researchers
- Highlighting success stories from Greece
- Ensuring diverse voices are heard

Challenges and Opportunities

- **Challenges we need to overcome:**

1. one of the lowest success rates in ERC grants in Europe,
2. limited awareness,
3. high competition,
4. brain drain

H2020: Success Rate by Country of Host Institution



- **Opportunities:** growing talent pool, strong diaspora, strong EU collaborations



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Ambassadors as catalysts for change in Greek Research Landscape

- Raising Greece's profile in European research
- Increasing applications and success rates
- Building stronger connections with ERC
- Contributing to innovation and excellence

CATALYSTS FOR CHANGE IN RESEARCH



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Future Vision

Connecting with Researchers

- Organizing workshops and info sessions
- Engaging with universities and research institutes
- One-to-one mentoring and advice
- Building an informed, confident applicant community

Engaging Stakeholders

- Broader outreach and engagement
- Digital tools and platforms for communication
- Stronger links between research, society, and policy





Together, we amplify research voices for a stronger future



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Association of ERC Grantees

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Useful URLs

<https://erc.europa.eu/homepage>

<https://aerg.eu/>