



European Research Council
Scientific Council

Established by the European Commission

Panel Chairs of the ERC Peer Review Panels ERC Synergy Grants 2026

The Synergy grants evaluation is carried out in three steps, including interviews in the third step. At step 1 a single panel is formed. Around 110 carefully selected Synergy panel members and 6 chairs ensure a wide generalist approach to reviewing. In addition to Synergy panel members, members of other ERC frontier calls, called panel evaluators can complement the expertise of the step 1 panel. Right after the step 1 decisions, seven to eight multidisciplinary panels will be constituted. Each panel, of comparable sizes, will have 15-18 members selected from the step 1 pool of Synergy panel members to best match the proposals in step 2 evaluation. At step 2 external reviewers will complement the generalist perspective of the Synergy panel members. External reviewers do not participate in panel meetings. They are scientists and scholars who bring in the necessary specialised expertise and deliver their individual assessments by electronic means. In step 3, the interview panels may be reconfigured.

Panel chairs of the ERC Synergy grant 2026 call:

- Professor Pierre Braunstein
- Professor Darwin Caldwell
- Professor Anne Ephrussi
- Professor Bernd Fleischmann
- Professor Michael Lambek
- Professor Dagmar Schäfer

Questions can be addressed to:

- [ERC Helpdesk](#)
- [ERC National Contact Points](#)

Note to applicants:

This information is given for reasons of transparency. Under no circumstances should peer reviewers be contacted by applicants, potential applicants or potential host institutions. Please also note that ERC peer reviewers are bound to confidentiality during the evaluation and afterwards. Hence, they are not allowed to communicate about the evaluation and/or specific proposal(s) with the principal investigators or potential team members or persons linked to them even after the completion of the evaluation process.