Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions under Horizon Europe

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Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
Horizon Europe

The ambitious **EU research and innovation framework programme** (2021-2027)

- to strengthen the EU's scientific and technological bases and the European Research Area (ERA)
- to boost Europe's innovation capacity, competitiveness and jobs
- to deliver on citizens' priorities and sustain Europe's socio-economic model and values

Total approved budget of **€95.5 billion**, increase of 30% compared to Horizon 2020
The MSCA under Horizon Europe

Pillar 1: Excellent Science
- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness
- Clusters:
  - Health
  - Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
  - Civil Security for Society
  - Digital, Industry and Space
  - Climate, Energy and Mobility
  - Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
- Joint Research Centre

Pillar 3: Innovative Europe
- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area
- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system
## Excellent Science (Pillar 1)

Reinforcing and extending the excellence of the EU’s science base

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Research Council</th>
<th>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions</th>
<th>Research Infrastructures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Frontier research by the best researchers and their teams</td>
<td>Equip researchers with new knowledge and skills</td>
<td>Integrated and inter-connected world-class research infrastructures</td>
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<td>Support doctoral and postdoctoral training networks</td>
<td>Support organisations build international collaboration across sectors</td>
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</table>
Introduction to the MSCA

• EU’s reference programme for doctoral and postdoctoral training, contributing to:
  - A highly skilled research-based human capital able to detect and tackle upcoming challenges, communicate scientific evidence to policy-makers and the public, and work across disciplines
  - Provide researchers with skills needed in the labour market, to innovate and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit
  - Develop excellent doctoral programmes enhancing the global attractiveness and visibility of institutions involved in them
  - Promote the EU’s global attractiveness for talents

• Total budget under Horizon Europe: 6.8€ billion
Key features

1. Researchers’ training, skills and career development (all stages of career)
2. Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)
3. International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility
4. Attractive working and employment conditions
5. Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes
6. Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs
Key figures (2014-2020)

+65,000 Researchers, including 25,000 PhD candidates

37% Researchers from outside of the EU

6.2 billion € Under Horizon 2020

+1,000 Doctoral programmes

+4,500 Companies supported

42% Female researchers
The Actions

Doctoral Networks
  Doctoral programmes in and outside academia incl joint & industrial doctorates

Postdoctoral Fellowships
  Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges
  Support for research and innovation staff exchanges

COFUND
  Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes

MSCA and Citizens
  Public outreach events (Night)
Synergies between the MSCA and Erasmus+

**Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education & Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Master Degrees can:**

- be used as stepping stones for participation in the MSCA (in particular Doctoral Networks and COFUND)
- build internationalisation strategies

**Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships & Knowledge Alliances can:**

- be used as stepping stones for MSCA (in particular Staff Exchange projects)
- involve the non-academic sector and third countries

**Erasmus+ Student and Staff mobility to participate in**

- the work of MSCA research teams (e.g. through traineeships)
- consortium-wide trainings (e.g. in MSCA Doctoral Networks or Staff Exchanges)
Synergies between the MSCA and European Universities

European University Alliances can:

- develop joint programmes and strategies integrating education, research and innovation
- mainstream best practices developed through the MSCA in doctoral, post-doctoral and researcher training
- develop doctoral networks and collaborative projects under the MSCA (Doctoral Networks, COFUND, Staff Exchanges)
- exploit and transfer research results into learning and teaching activities
Examples: MSCA and European Universities

EUTOPIA-Science and Innovation Fellowship (COFUND 2019)

• Strategic programme launched by the EUTOPIA Alliance, a network of six universities that has been awarded an Erasmus+ ‘European Universities’ pilot project

• 76 post-doctoral researchers will receive 24-months fellowships to work in 5 interdisciplinary key research areas: 1) Materials engineering; 2) Data & Intelligence; 3) Health; 4) Sustainability; 5) Welfare & Inclusion

• [https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/945380](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/945380)
Examples: MSCA and European Universities

CIVIS3i - The CIVIS Alliance Programme for International, Interdisciplinary, Intersectoral Research and Training for Experienced Researchers (COFUND 2020)

• International programme developed in the context of the European University CIVIS

• 32 Experienced Researchers will receive 24-months postdoctoral fellowships to work on five important global societal challenges: 1) Health; 2) Climate, Environment, Energy; 3) Digital and Technological Transformation; 4) Cities, Territories and mobilities; 5) Society, Culture, Heritage

## Upcoming calls

<table>
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<th>Call year</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Estimated deadlines*</th>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td><strong>Doctoral Networks</strong></td>
<td>4 May 2021 - 16 November 2021</td>
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<td><strong>Postdoctoral Fellowships</strong></td>
<td>15 April 2021 - 15 September 2021</td>
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<td><strong>Staff Exchanges</strong></td>
<td>7 October 2021 - 9 March 2022</td>
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<td><strong>COFUND</strong></td>
<td>12 October 2021 - 10 February 2022</td>
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<td><strong>MSCA and Citizens (covers 2 editions)</strong></td>
<td>17 June 2021 - 7 October 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td><strong>Doctoral Networks</strong></td>
<td>3 May 2022 - 15 November 2022</td>
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<td>14 April 2022 - 14 September 2022</td>
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<td><strong>Staff Exchanges</strong></td>
<td>6 October 2022 - 8 March 2023</td>
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<td><strong>COFUND</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>MSCA and Citizens</strong></td>
<td>No call foreseen in 2022</td>
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Useful links

• Euraxess Portal (PhD and postdoctorate vacancies, more information)
  https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/

• List of National Contact Points
  https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp

• Research Inquiry Service
  https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service-and-participant-validation_en

• Funding and Tenders Portal (calls, applications, etc.)
  https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

• MCAA (Alumni association)
  https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu
Thank you for your attention!