

Introduction to Horizon Europe

University of Essex Annual Visit

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Outline

- **Introduction to Horizon Europe**
 - UK participation
 - Novelties of the programme
 - Pillars 1, 2 and 3
- **Q&A**
- **European Research Council**
 - General overview of the scheme
 - ERC Starting Grant
- **Q&A**
- **BREAK**
- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**
 - General overview of the scheme
 - MSCA Doctoral Networks
- **Q&A**



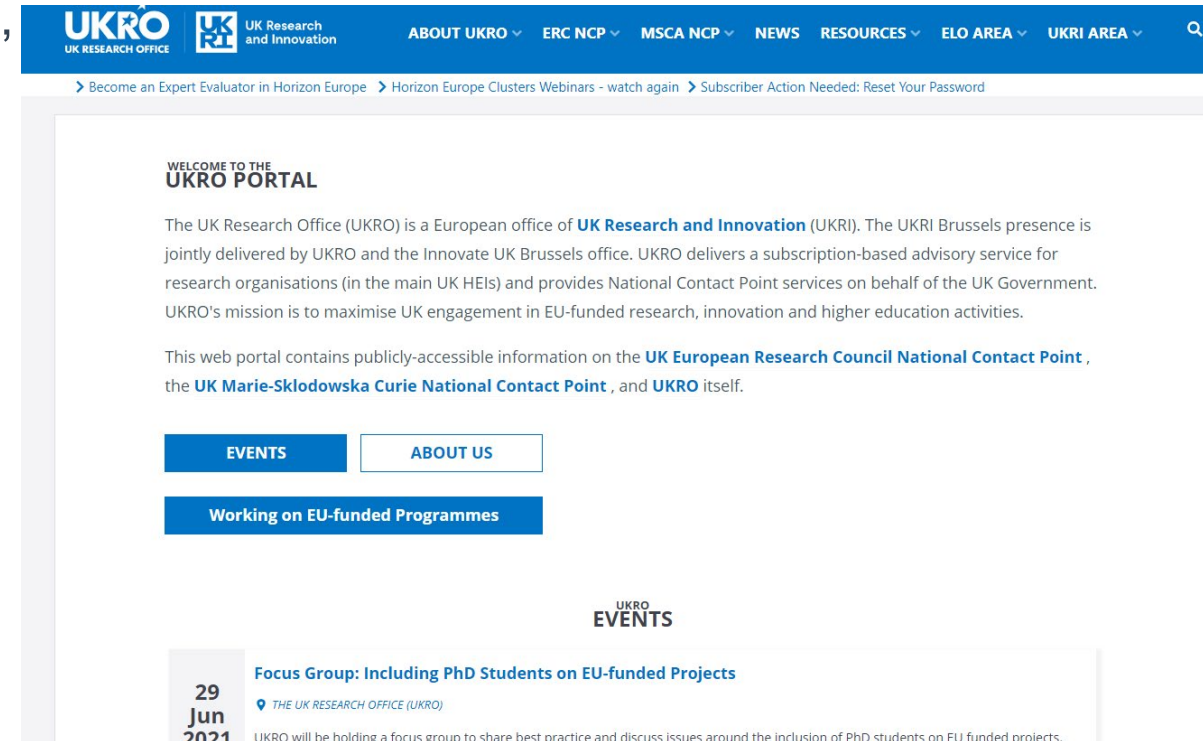
UKRO

- **Mission**

- Maximise UK engagement in EU-funded research, innovation and higher education activities

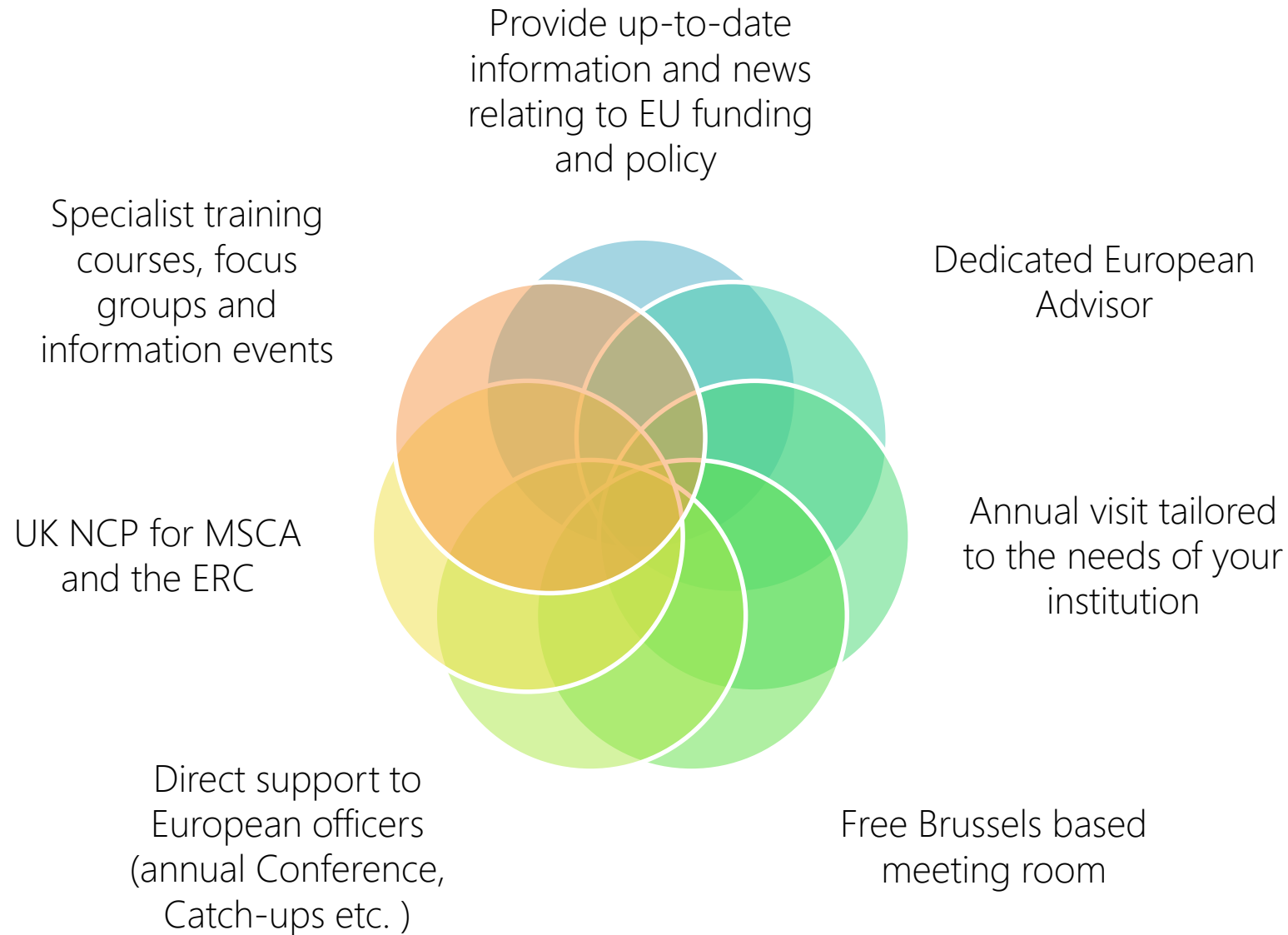
- **Our office**

- Based in Brussels
- European office of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)
- Delivers subscription-based advisory services for around 140 research organisations in the UK and beyond
- Provides [ERC](#) and [MSCA](#) National Contact Point services on behalf of the UK Government



<https://www.ukro.ac.uk/>

Our suite of services



UK's Relationship with the EU

UK Participation

UK Participation – Association to Horizon Europe



- On 24 December 2020, the UK Government announced the conclusions of the negotiations with the European Commission.
- Included [confirmation](#) that the UK will associate to Horizon Europe
- The agreement also included participation in:
 - JRC activities, Article 185 & 187 Partnerships, the EIT, ERICs, ERAC, Euratom ITER and Copernicus
- The intent is for the UK to associate in time to participate from the beginning of the programme
- Withdrawal Agreement is still in place for H2020 funded projects

Commission's Q&A on UK Participation

- The UK is expected to soon become an associated country to Horizon Europe.
- The UK will have the same rights and obligations as other countries associated to the Programme
- UK entities including universities, research centres, scientists, innovative businesses, industry, etc. will have full rights to participate in the first calls for proposals as soon as they are published on the [Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal](#).
- This includes calls published before the adoption of the Horizon Europe Regulation
 - such as early COVID-19 calls, the European Research Council (ERC), and the European Innovation Council (EIC) - apart from the EIC Fund
- UK entities are eligible for funding at the same rates and under the same conditions as EU participants
- UK entities can lead project consortia and count towards the minimum number of countries in calls for transnational projects



Q&A on the UK's participation in Horizon Europe

The UK is expected to soon become an associated country to the EU's R&I Framework Programme Horizon Europe. The UK will therefore have the same rights and obligations as other countries associated to the Programme.

Research and
Innovation

Date: 25-02-2021

https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/ga-uks-participation-horizon-europe_en

What Does this Mean

UK based organisations and researchers can:

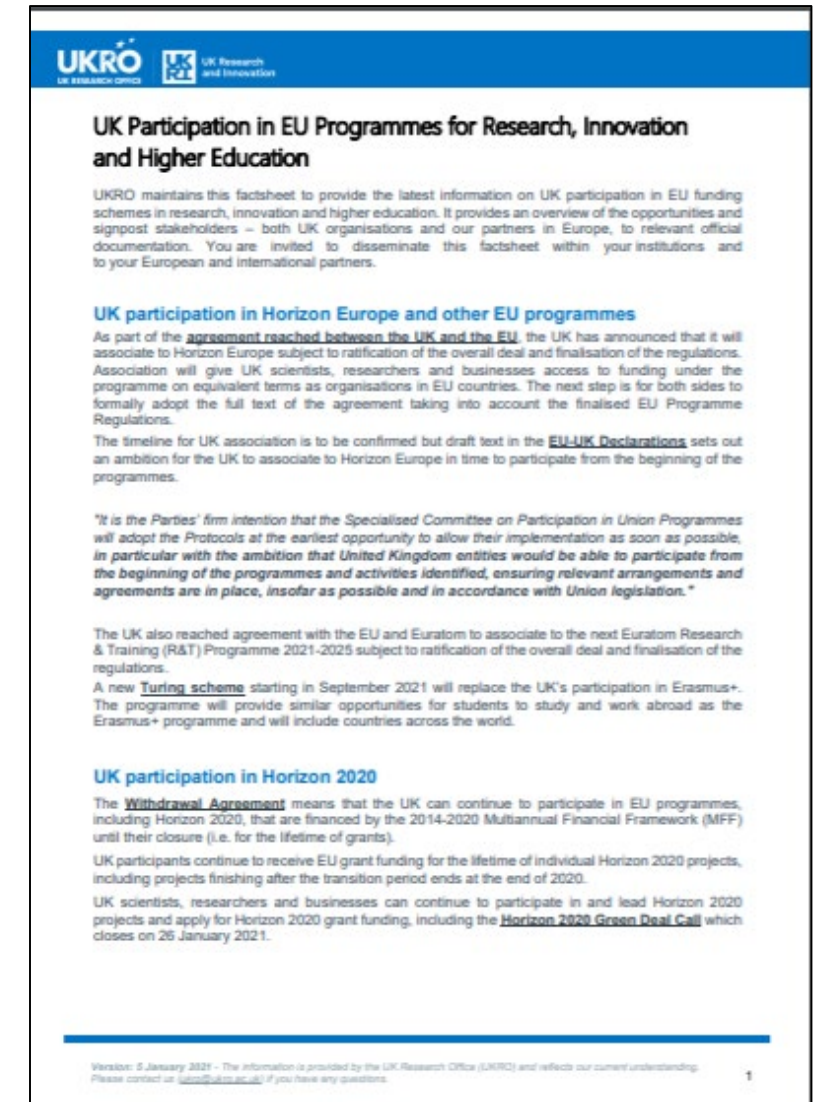
- Participate in all parts of Horizon Europe
 - Inducing ERC, MSCA and COST
- Coordinator collaborative bids, host ERC PIs, and recruit MSCA fellows
- Receive funding directly from the EC for the life time of the project
- Become expert reviewers, sit on expert panels and participate in consultations

UK based organisations and researchers must:

- Follow standard eligibility rules
- Follow funding rules as set out in the Horizon Europe MGA

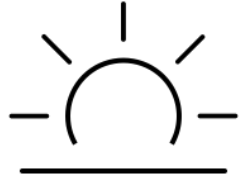
Links to official documents and further information

- UKRO [website](#) provides latest information on UK participation
- The official statements on the EU-UK relationship are available on a [dedicated European Commission website](#) and the [UK Government page](#).
- UK Government provides information on [EU Funded Programmes under the Withdrawal Agreement](#).
- [Turing scheme](#) for students to study and work abroad
 - New to replace Erasmus



Introduction to Horizon Europe

What is Horizon Europe?



- The EU's flagship programme for research and innovation running from 2021-2027
- **Overall budget of €95.5 billion**
- **Ambition:** To shape the future of Europe and making Horizon Europe the most ambitious research and innovation programme ever introduced
- **Aim:** To create opportunities for the world of tomorrow from the challenges of today and:
 - Strengthen the European Research Area (ERA)
 - Boost Europe's innovation capacity, competitiveness and growth
 - Deliver on citizens' priorities

Horizon and EU policy priorities



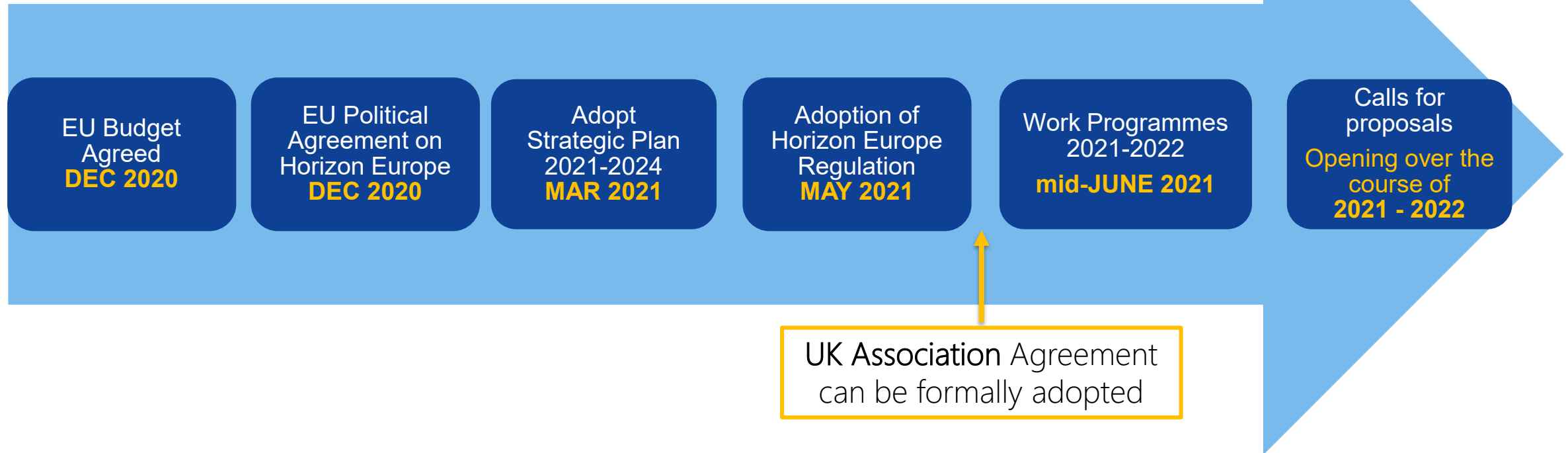
- Horizon Europe will include actions that support the wider political objectives of the European Commission, including the green and digital transition and a sustainable **recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic**
- Specifically, it will support the ambition to make **Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050**, directing a minimum of 35% of the funding available to climate objectives (7.5% on biodiversity)
- It will contribute to making 2021-2030 **Europe's digital decade** and further support the objectives of the **European Green Deal**
- It will establish clear links between R&I activities and the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, as well as work to ensure the Union helps fulfil its role as signatory to the **Paris Agreement**

What's new in the Horizon Europe?



- Mission-oriented funding:
 - Portfolios of activity to contribute to 5 high-level, impactful and global objectives
- European Innovation Council:
 - Formalising the EIC and building upon its pilot phase under H2020
- Open to the World:
 - Enhanced association opportunities for Third Countries
- Open Science policy:
 - Extending the use of open access and further developing the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)
- New approach to European Partnerships:
 - Consolidating the use of public-public and public-private partnerships
- Spreading Excellence:
 - Increase of emphasis and funding for 'widening' activities

Horizon Europe Steps Towards Funding Calls Open



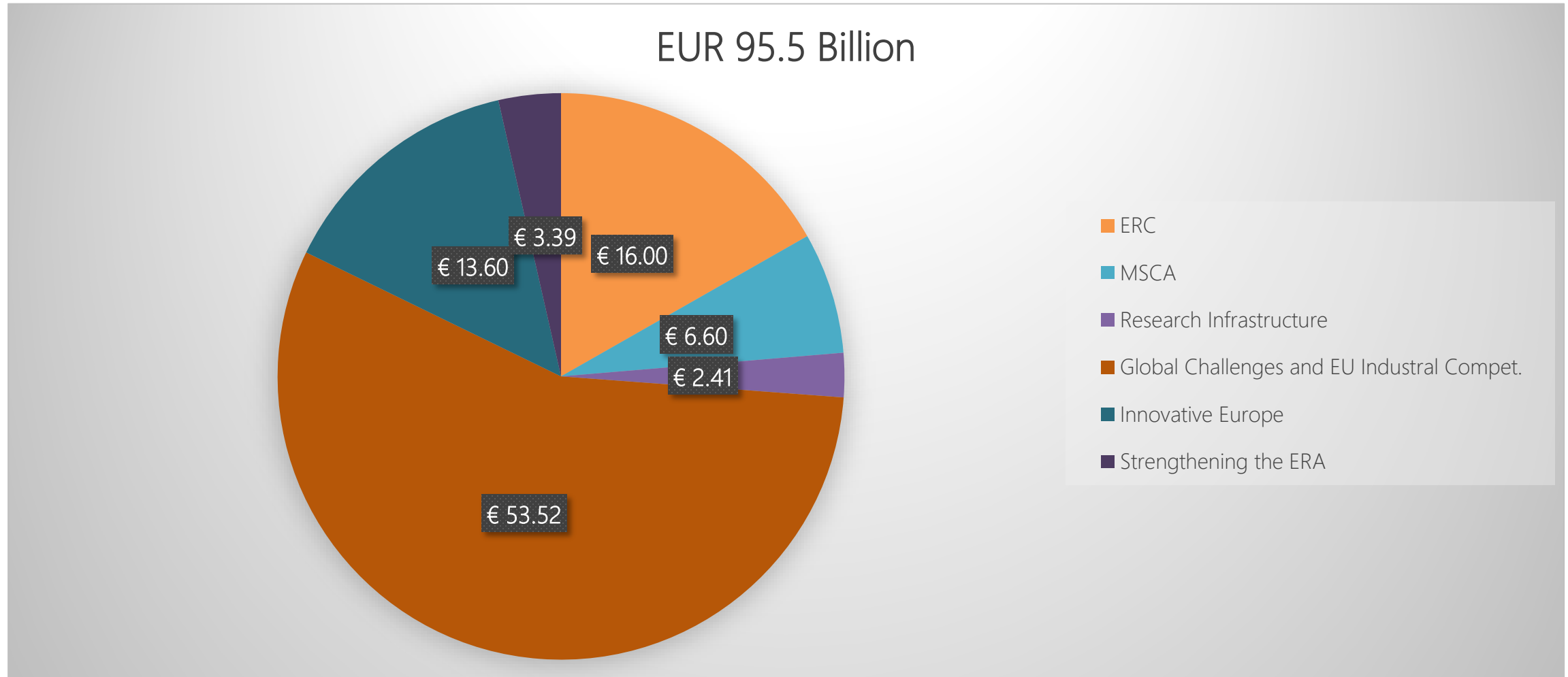
- A footnote has been added to individual (draft) Work Programme parts to clarify that countries in the process of associating can apply, and formal association needs to be concluded before grant agreements can be signed
- European Commission's [Q&A on UK participation in Horizon Europe](#)

Three Pillar Structure



- Aims at maximising the effects of European research and innovation investments
- Ensure a sustainable, fair and prosperous future for people and planet based on European values
- Boosting the Union's competitiveness and growth

Horizon Europe - Distribution of the Budget



- Tackling climate change (~35 % of budget) and supporting biodiversity (~7.5% of budget)

Pillar 1 – Excellent Science

Overview of the European Research Council

- Established to fund **high calibre researchers in any research area** including the Arts and the Humanities.
- Supports and encourages truly creative and excellent scientists, scholars and engineers **to be adventurous and take risks in their research**
- Encourages researchers to **go beyond established frontiers of knowledge** and undertake multidisciplinary, highly ambitious, innovative research.
- No mobility or nationality requirements
- No need for multi-national partnerships or consortium
- One host organisation must be located in an EU Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC)

Overview of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)



MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN)

- formally Innovative Training Networks (ITN)



MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (FP)

- Formally Individual Fellowships (IF)



MSCA Staff Exchanges (SE)

- Formally Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)



MSCA Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)

- Formally Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)



MSCA and Citizens

- Formally Researchers' Night (NIGHT)

What are Research Infrastructures?

- Research infrastructures are **facilities, resources and services** used by the research communities to conduct research and foster innovation.
- May be used beyond research (education or public services)
- Includes:
 - **major scientific equipment** (or sets of instruments);
 - **knowledge-based resources** (collections, archives, scientific data);
 - **e-infrastructure** (data, computing systems, communication networks);
 - **other infrastructure of a unique nature** essential to achieve excellence in research and innovation.
- Infrastructures may be '**single-sited**', '**virtual**' or '**distributed**'.

Pillar 2 – Global Challenges & Industrial Competitiveness

Pillar 2 - Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

- Clusters

Cluster	Areas of Intervention	
1) Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health throughout the life course • Non-communicable and rare diseases • Tools, technologies and digital solutions for health and care, including personalised medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and social health determinants • Infectious diseases, including poverty-related and neglected disease • Health care systems
2) Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy and Governance • Social and economic transformations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture, cultural heritage and creativity
3) Civil Security for Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster-resilient societies • Protection and Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cybersecurity
4) Digital, Industry and Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing technologies • Advanced materials • Next generation internet • Circular industries • Space, including Earth Observation • Emerging enabling technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key digital technologies, including quantum technologies • Artificial Intelligence and robotics • Advanced computing and Big Data • Low-carbon and clean industry
5) Climate, Energy & Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate science and solutions • Energy systems and grids • Communities and cities • Industrial competitiveness in transport • Smart mobility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy supply • Buildings and industrial facilities in energy transition • Clean, safe and accessible transport and mobility • Energy storage
6) Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental observation • Agriculture, forestry and rural areas • Circular systems • Food systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and natural resources • Seas, oceans and inland waters • Bio-based innovation systems in the EU Bioeconomy

Work Programmes with new impact-driven approach

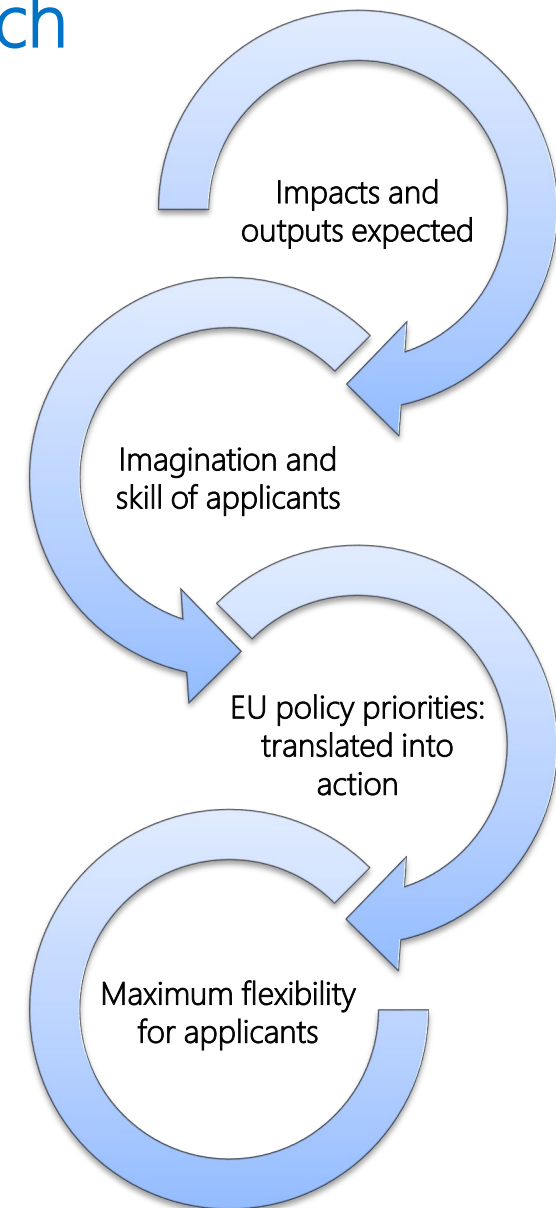
Horizon Europe supports research and innovation through Work Programmes, which set out funding opportunities for research and innovation activities

Horizon Europe has new structure for calls with each Work Programme part including a number of:

- 'Destinations',
- Topic
- Expected Outputs

Destinations set out priorities but will leave the exact approach for achieving them to the applicant

Aimed at giving applicants greater freedom in translating policy priorities into concrete action



Pillar 3 – Innovative Europe

Pillar 3 – Innovative Europe – European Innovation Council (EIC)

- Provides a coherent and connected system of innovation funding that supports projects with market potential
- Principally targeted at Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and industry
- EIC will serve as a 'one-stop shop' for European innovators
- Channel funding through three main schemes

Pathfinder

- Based on the FET Open
- Support international consortia working on establishing future and emerging breakthrough technologies through collaborative research and innovation projects

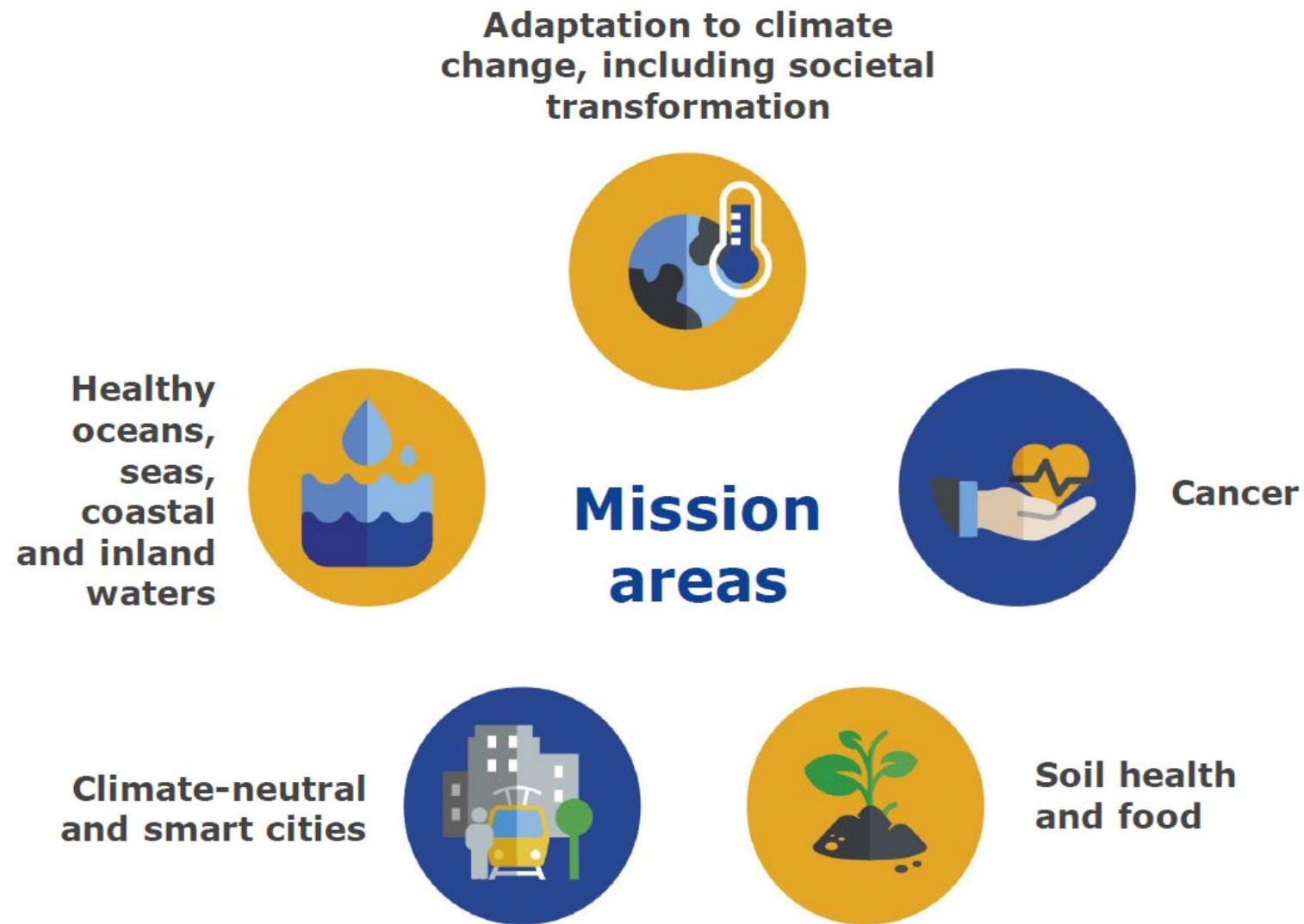
Transition

- For 2021, only open to ERC Proof of Concept grantees and EIC Pathfinder grantees
- Matures a novel technology and develops a business case to bring it to market

Accelerator

- Based on the SME Instrument
- Will bridge the financing gap between late stages of innovation activities and market take-up, to effectively deploy breakthrough market-creating innovation and scale up companies where the market does not provide viable financing

Horizon Europe Missions



Any Questions?

European Research Council

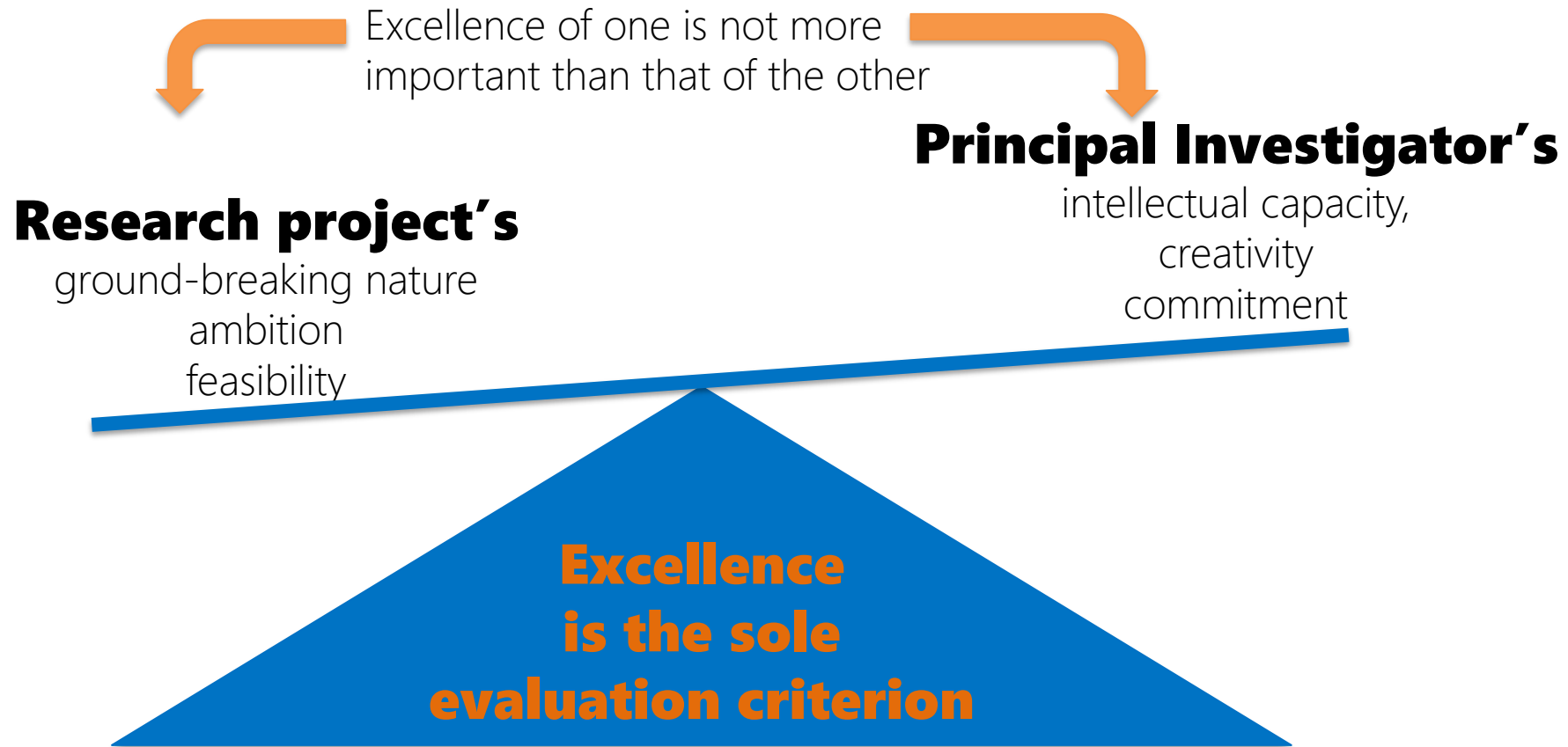
What is the ERC?

- Support the **best of the best in Europe across all fields** of science, scholarship and engineering
- Promote investigator-driven, or 'bottom-up' frontier research
- Encourage the work of the **established and next generation of research leaders** in Europe
- Reward proposals for **quality of idea** rather than the research area
- Open to the **very best researchers** of today and tomorrow, from anywhere in the world, who are looking to work in Europe.
- **Flagship** that raises the status and visibility of European frontier research.



BOTTOM-UP, AMBITIOUS & EXCELLENT RESEARCH IN ANY FIELD

ERC evaluation criteria



Proposal is not judged on socioeconomic impact or relevance to European policy

ERC Budget in Horizon Europe

Significant budget that is in high demand:
"Every year the ERC identifies about 30% more absolutely excellent proposals than the ones it can fund."

ERC BUDGET: €16 Billion
(in proportion to Horizon Europe budget)

Pillar 1 Excellent science

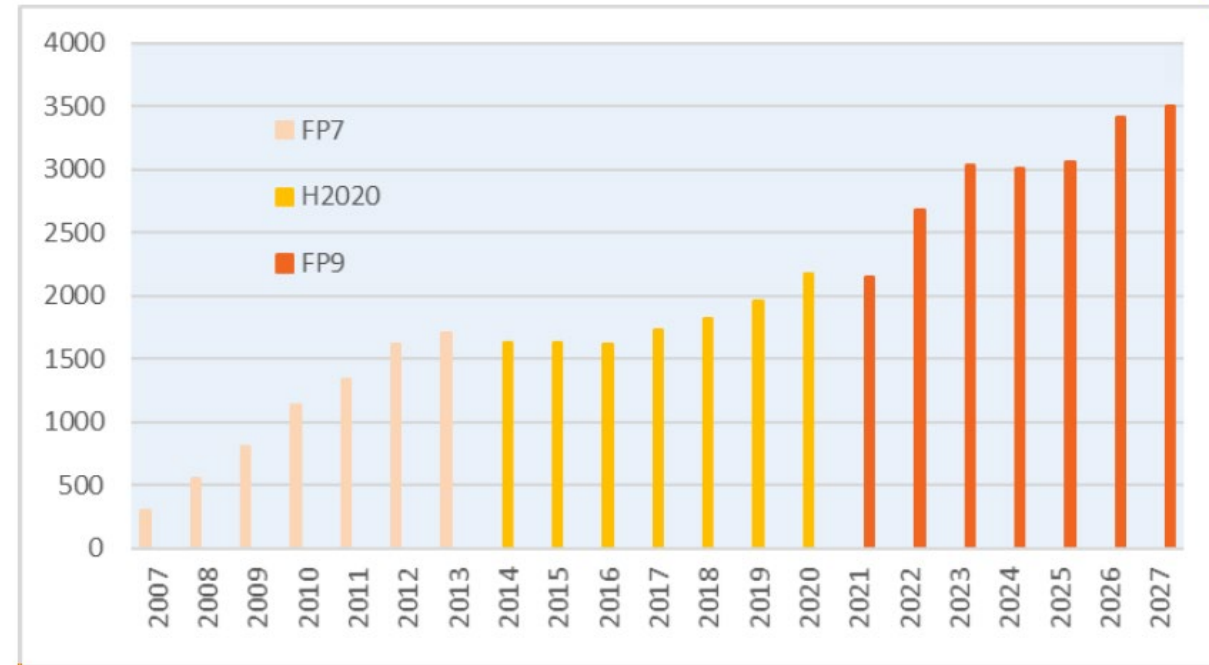
Pillar 2 Global challenges

Pillar 3 Innovative
Europe

Pillar 4

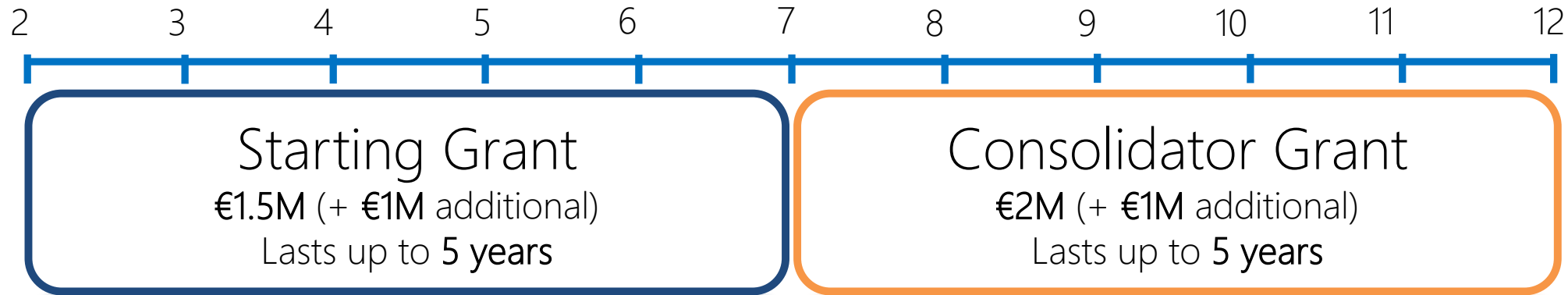
Yearly increase of ERC BUDGET

(2021-2027 include estimated Associated Country contributions)

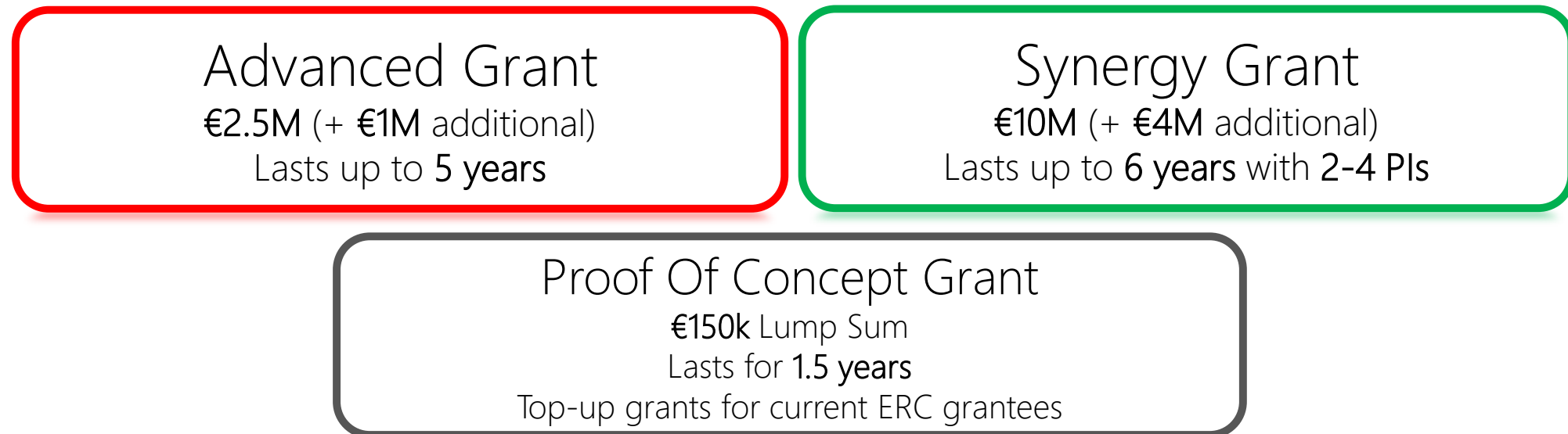


ERC Grant Schemes

Years post-PhD



No PhD Requirements



ERC Frontier Research Grant Schemes

Starting Grants, Consolidator Grants and Advanced Grants

- The ERC seeks to fund the best 'frontier research' proposals submitted by excellent researchers in the area of their choice
- Funds projects led by a Principal Investigator, plus team members if required (not like consortia grants)
- 27 panels in 3 domains which proposals can be submitted to:
 - Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE)
 - Life Sciences (LS)
 - Social Sciences and Humanities (SH)

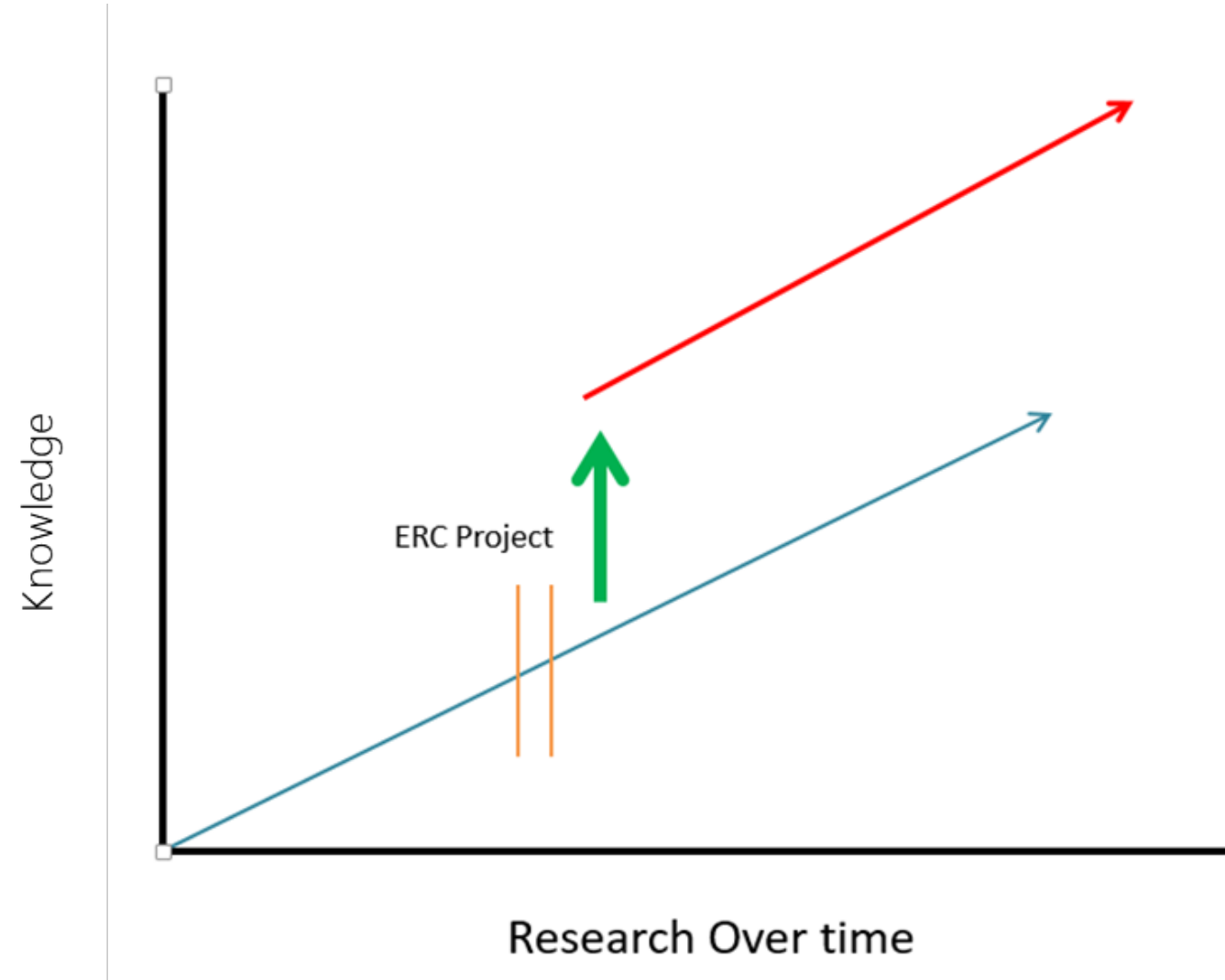
ERC Panel Structure

Physical Sciences & Engineering	Life Sciences	Social Sciences & Humanities
<p>PE1 Mathematics</p> <p>PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter Particle</p> <p>PE3 Condensed Matter Physics</p> <p>PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences</p> <p>PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials</p> <p>PE6 Computer Science and Informatics</p> <p>PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering</p> <p>PE8 Products and Processes Engineering</p> <p>PE9 Universe Sciences</p> <p>PE10 Earth System Science</p> <p>PE11 Materials Engineering*</p>	<p>LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures & Functions</p> <p>LS2 Integrative Biology: Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems</p> <p>LS3 Cellular, Developmental and Regenerative Biology</p> <p>LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing</p> <p>LS5 Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System</p> <p>LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy</p> <p>LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases</p> <p>LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution</p> <p>LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering</p>	<p>SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations</p> <p>SH2 Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems</p> <p>SH3 The Social World and its Diversity</p> <p>SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity</p> <p>SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production</p> <p>SH6 The Study of the Human Past</p> <p>SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space*</p>

**These two panels are new additions, they will be in place for the 2021 calls*

What Do We Mean by Frontier Research?

- Ground-breaking research
- Going beyond current limits of your research area
- Development of new horizons
- New solutions to old problems
- Exciting



Synergy Grants

- For 2 to 4 PIs, up to €14 million funding for 6 years
- Enable a group of principal investigators (and their teams) to bring together complementary skills, knowledge and resources in new ways to jointly address research problems
- Has a dynamic panel structure which responds to the type of proposals submitted
- One of the PIs can be hosted in a third-country institution

Proof-of-Concept Grants

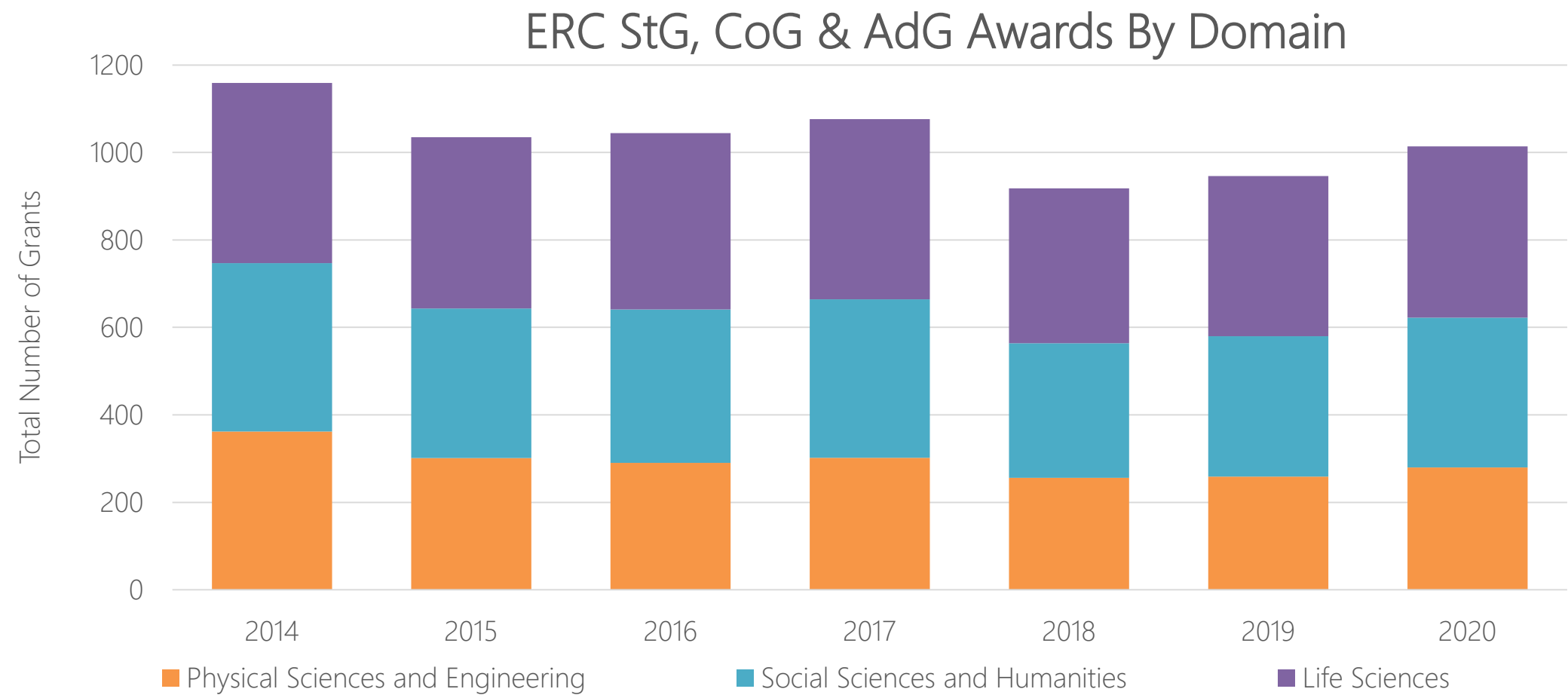
- “Top-up” grants for existing ERC grants to take ideas with innovation potential closer to market or society
- **Only PIs on ERC frontier research grants** that are on-going or have ended less than 12 months before the opening date of the call are eligible.
- Only one Proof of Concept project may be running at any one time for the same ERC frontier research project.
- Covers the initial steps of pre-competitive development.
- Funding is a lump sum grant of €150,000 over 18 months – no financial reporting, but technical outputs must be met.

Tentative ERC 2022 Calls

Double check when the 2022 ERC
Work Programme is published!!

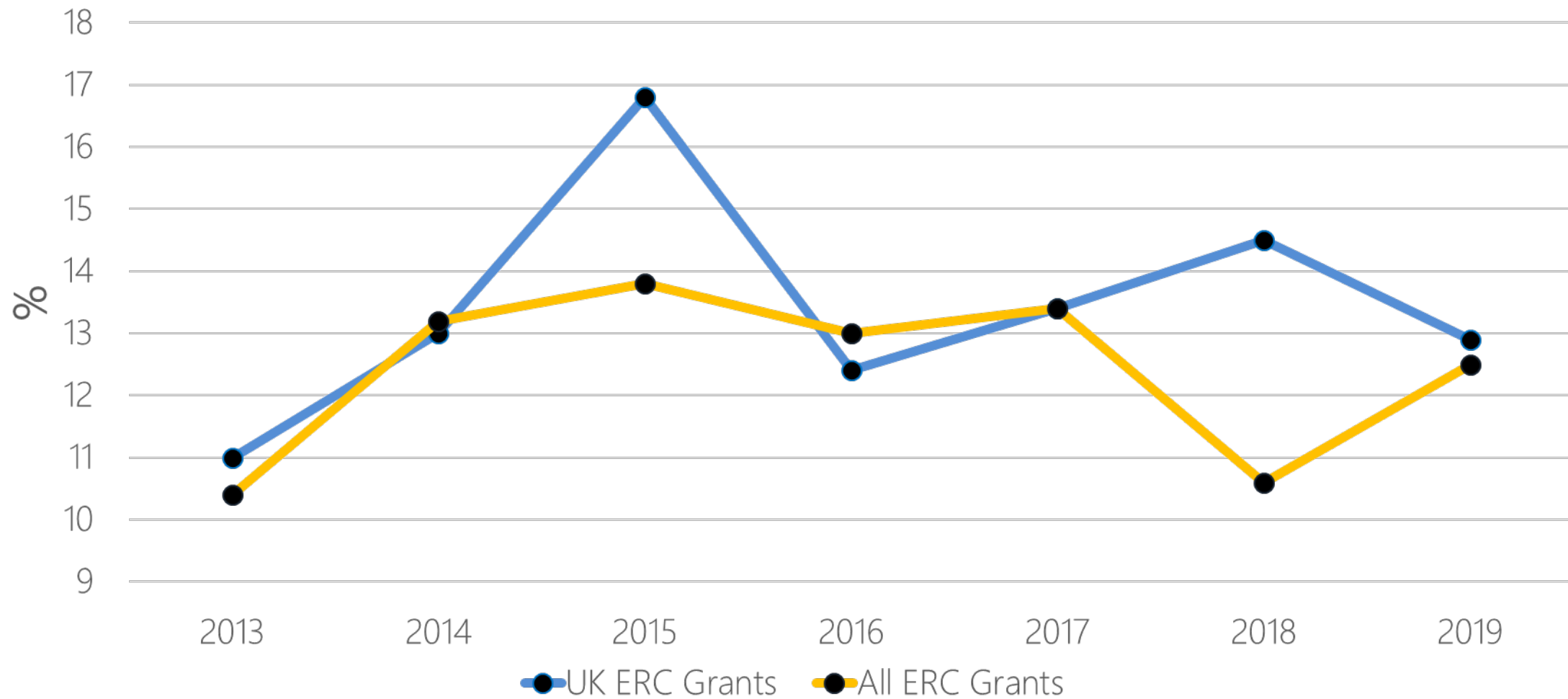
	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant	Proof of Concept	
Call Type	ERC-2022-StG	ERC-2022-CoG	ERC-2022-AdG	ERC-2022-SyG	ERC-2022-PoC	
Call Opens	23/09/2021	19/10/2021	20/01/2022	15/07/2021	15/07/2021	16/11/2021
Deadline	13/01/2022	17/03/2022	28/04/2022	10/11/2021	14/10/2021	15/02/2022 19/05/2022 29/09/2022
Budget	€757 M	€784 M	€561 M	€300 M	€25 M	€25 M

Funded Projects by Domain



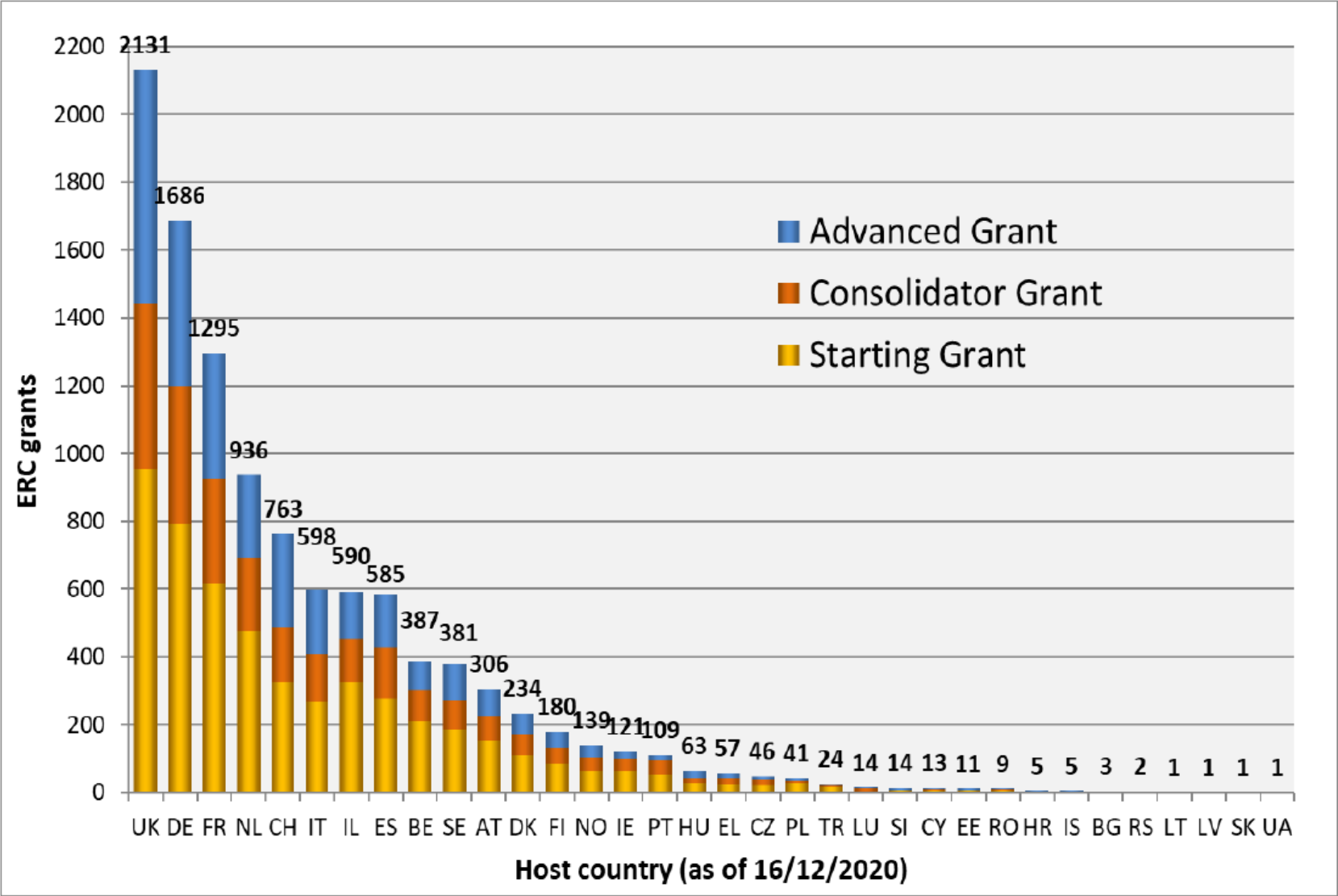
Source: [ERC statistics](#)

UK Success Rate vs Average Success Rate



Source: [ERC statistics](#)

Number of proposals received per country



Source: ERCEA

ERC Starting Grant call

2021 Scheme Eligibility windows

Cut-off dates: 2021 Starting Grant call

PhD awarded from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2018 (inclusive)

Cut-off dates: 2021 Consolidator Grant call

PhD awarded from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2013 (inclusive)

The date of the first PhD considered for the calculation of the eligibility period is the date of the actual award according to the national rules of the country where the degree was awarded.

Applicants should check with the awarding institution if there is any doubt on the date of actual award.

Extending Eligibility of an ERC applicant

Starting and Consolidator Grant eligibility window can be extended for:

- **Maternity leave** (18 months per child or longer with documentation) before or after PhD award
- **Paternity leave** (actual amount of documented leave taken) before or after PhD award
- **National service**, after PhD award
- **Long-term illness** (over 90 days) of PI or a close family member (child, spouse, parent or sibling), after PhD award.
- **Clinical training**

Please see [Work Programme](#) for details (p 17)

No extensions for part time working, non-research careers, travel etc., unless linked to illness/maternity (but this is taken into account for evaluation of the PI's track record).

Principal Investigator Eligibility

Who?

No restrictions based on age, nationality, current location or current employment/contract status.

Where?

Must have an institution based in an EU member state or associated country willing to host them.

Calculated as an average across entire project duration, can vary to a degree year on year

Grant Type	Minimum % of Working Time on Grant	Minimum % of time in EU Member State/Associated Country*	Years since PhD Award
Starting	50	50	> 2 and ≤ 7
Consolidator	40	50	> 7 and ≤ 12
Advanced	30	50	N/A
Synergy	30	50	N/A

* Fieldwork/work abroad related to the ERC project does not count against time commitment

Principal Investigator's time commitments

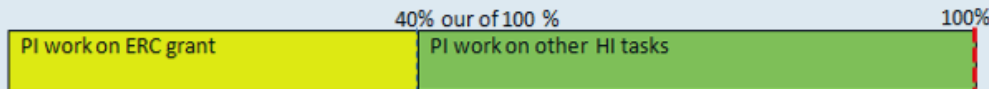
Minimum 40% full time equivalent working on the ERC grant

- All percentages are established by reference to the full time equivalent at the host institution (see below) or 1720 hours per year.

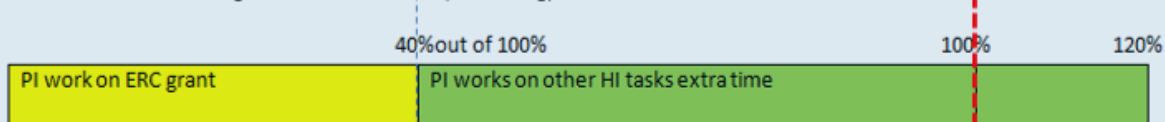
50% minimum time spent in a EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country

- Fieldwork/work abroad related to the ERC project does not count against this time commitment

Consolidator PI with a FTE contract

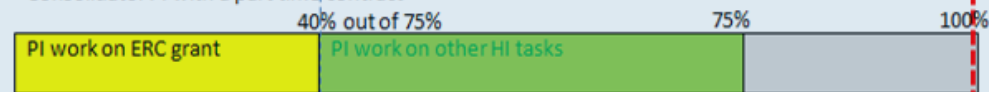


Consolidator PI working more than the 100% (FTE ceiling)

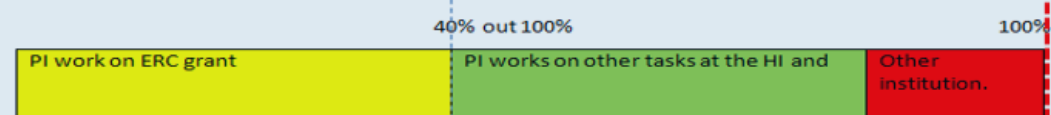


PIs working part-time – time commitments are pro-rata (% part-time contract)

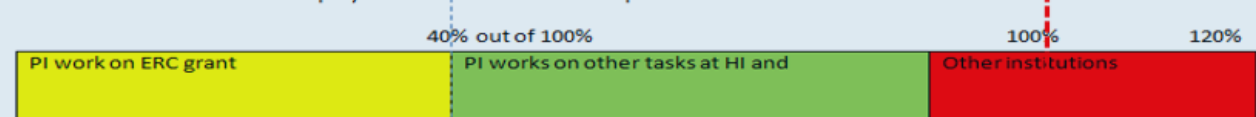
Consolidator PI with a part time contract



Consolidator PI has a FTE contract split between the HI and other institution

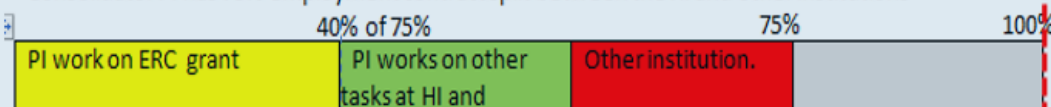


Consolidator PI has 120% employment time with contracts split between the HI and other institutions



PIs working part-time – time commitments are pro-rata (% part-time contract)

Consolidator PI has 75% employment contract split between the HI and other institutions



Host Institution Eligibility



Can be **any type of legal entity** (university, business, public body etc.)



Must be based in an **EU Member State or Associated Country**



Has the **infrastructure and capacity** to allow the PI independence



Must not constrain the PI to the institution's research strategy



Must **'engage'** the PI for project duration, if grant is successful



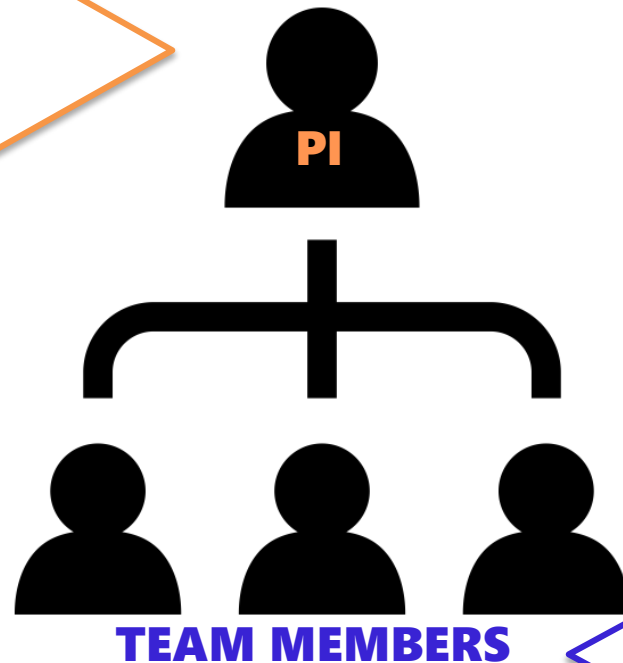
Not evaluated but must submit letter of commitment with proposal

If funded:

- signs up to the **Grant Agreement**
- signs a **'Supplementary Agreement'** with the PI

Principal Investigators leading Team Members

- PI **leads** the research project, they are not collaborating as equals with their team.
- PI has the **freedom to choose** how many team members are included in the project.
- PI **names individuals or roles** that will be recruited in the proposal.
- PI must **justify the team** and its composition and contribution.
- Evaluators reject proposals where the PI is overshadowed by any team members.



- None can be co-investigators
- Assigned to specific project outputs/tasks
- Should not have purely supervisory/mentor roles.
- Can be **research staff at any level** (including technicians and project managers).
- Of any age, nationality or country of residence
- Can be based **at the Host Institution or any other organisation** in the world
- **EU funded**, even outside member states or associated countries

Eligible costs

- The ERC funds up to **100% of the total eligible costs**.
- The costs cover the full project duration.
- This includes the direct costs of the project plus a flat-rate contribution to **indirect costs calculated as 25% of the total eligible direct costs**
- The budget is subdivided into

personnel costs

**travel,
equipment**

consumables

**publications
(including any
costs related to
Open Access)**

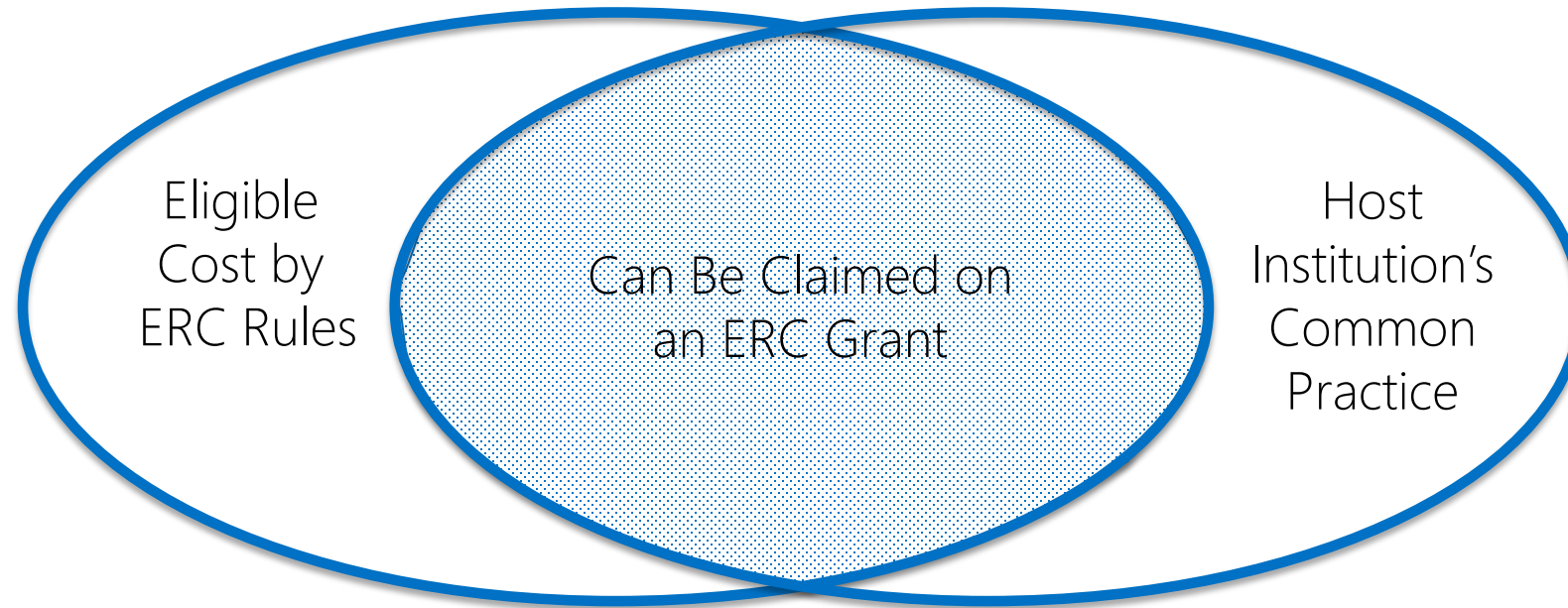
**other additional
direct costs**

**internally
invoiced goods
and services**

**in kind
contributions
not used on the
premises**

**subcontracting
costs**

Resources: general tips



Auditors will check that costs are both eligible by ERC rules *and* in keeping with the standard accounting practices of the host institution.

e.g. ERC allows hotel bookings in Paris for research trips, but a PI at a Paris institution would not be allowed to charge it to their grant due to institutional rules

Funding Levels

Grant Type	Maximum Base Grant Amount	Maximum “Additional Funding”
Starting	€1.5 M	€1.0 M
Consolidator	€2.0 M	€1.0 M
Advanced	€2.5 M	€1.0 M
Synergy	€10 M	€4.0 M

Additional funding covers:

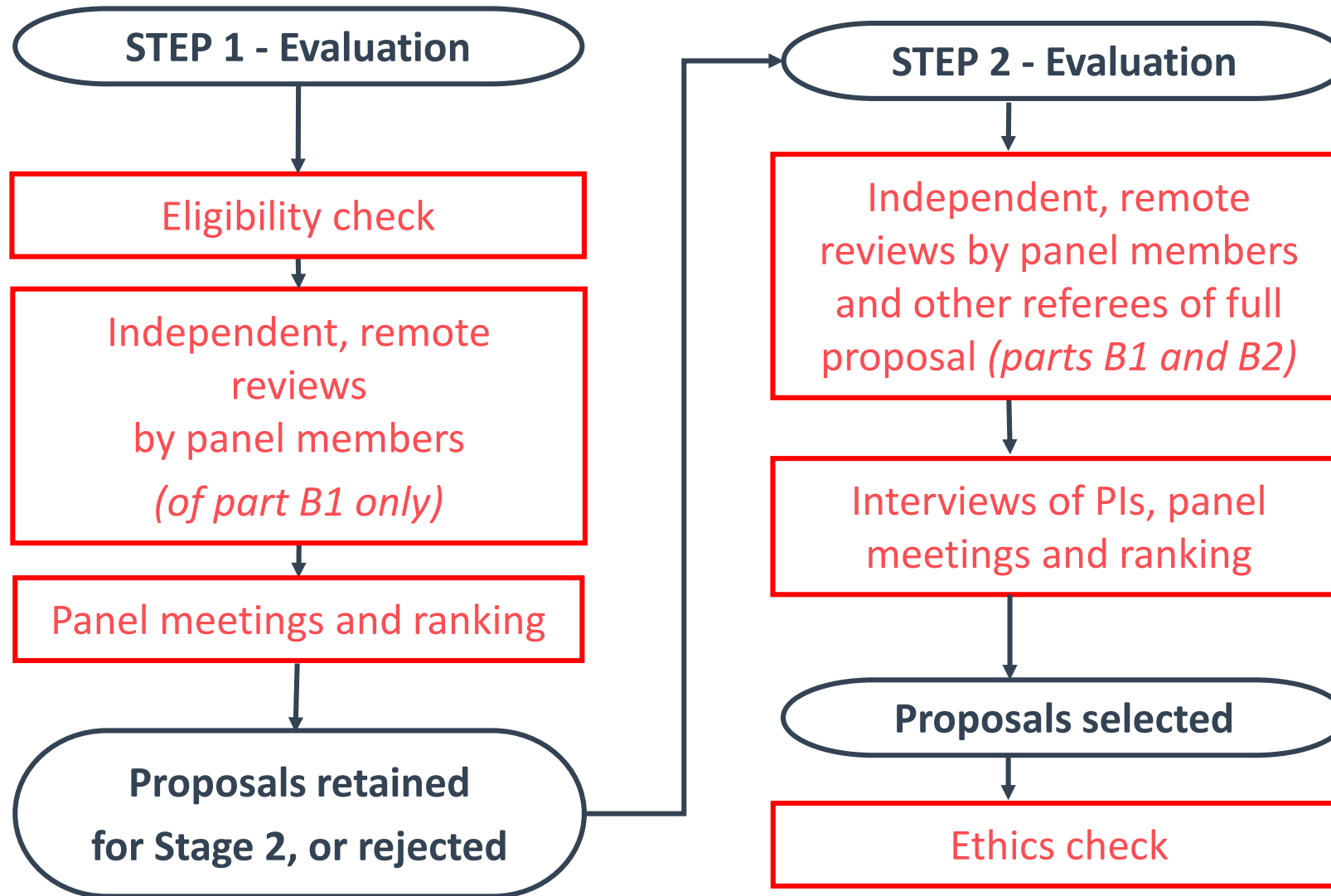
- eligible “start-up” costs for PIs moving from outside Europe
- the purchase of major equipment
- access to large facilities
- major experimental/fieldwork costs (excluding personnel)

These costs are justified separately in the proposal.

There is no definition of “equipment” or “facilities”.

All requests will be evaluated by the peer review panel.

Proposal Evaluation Process



Evaluation Outcomes

Proposal Grading	Stage	Funded?	Reapplication Restrictions?
A	2	If sufficient budget	None
B	2	No	None
B	1	No	1 Year
C	1	No	2 Years

Proposals which do not progress to Step 2 have “demand management” restrictions.

- Restrictions produced from Starting, Consolidator and Advanced Grant calls.
- Synergy Grant calls only produce restrictions for PIs at Advanced career level.
- Restrictions from Starting Grant calls apply to subsequent Consolidator Grant calls. Similarly from Consolidator to Advanced.
- Restrictions from Horizon 2020 apply in Horizon Europe.

Useful links

- [ERC 2021 CoG call on the Funding and Tenders portal](#)
- [ERC 2021 StG and CoG Information for Applicants](#)
- [Draft Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#)
- [Part B1 Template](#)
- [Part B2 Template](#)
- [Host Institution Support Letter](#)
- [ERC Website](#)
- [Novelties in the Horizon Europe MGA](#) – Commission Stakeholder Workshop video

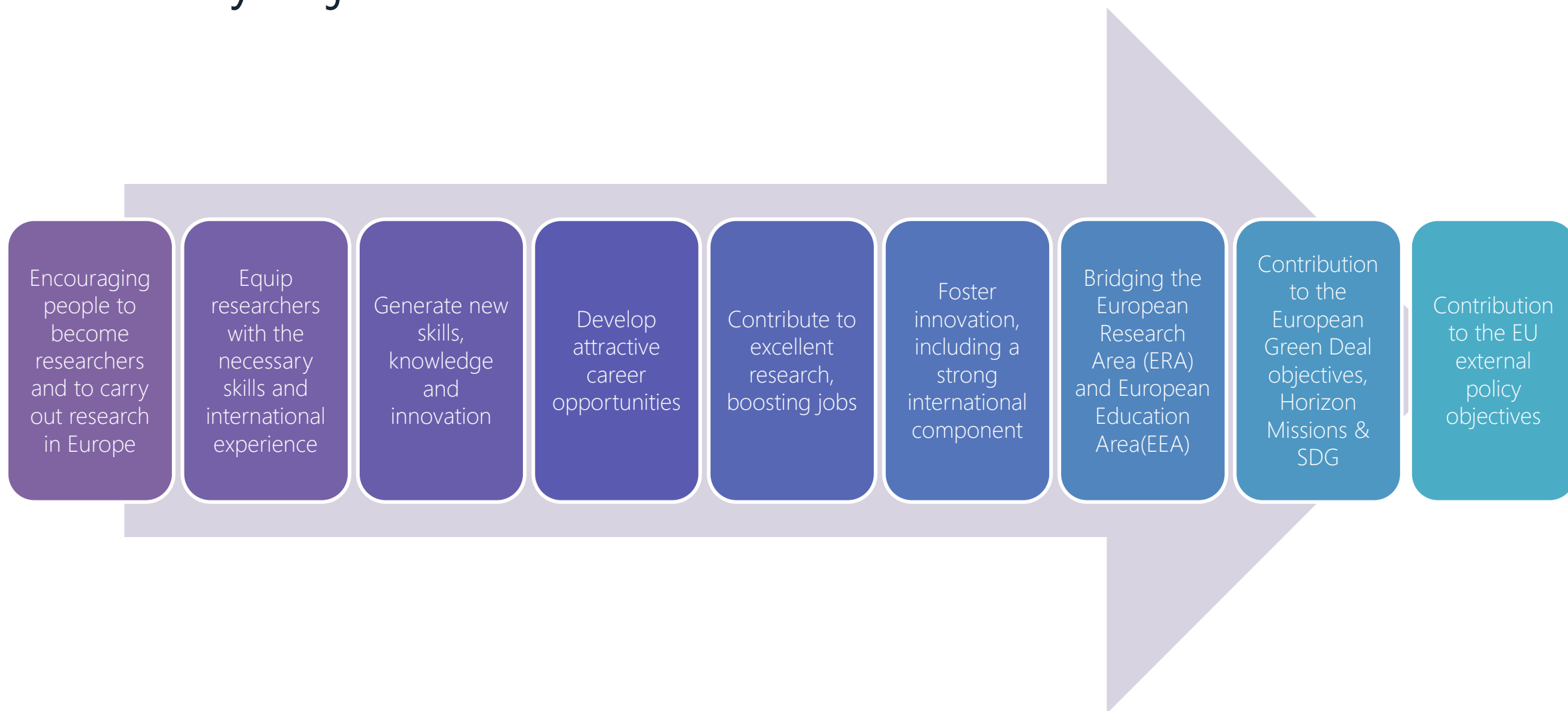
Any Questions?

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

- Provides grants for all stages of researchers' careers and encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility
- Enables research-focused organisations - universities, research centres, and companies – to host talented foreign researchers and to create strategic partnerships with leading institutions worldwide
- Equips researchers with the necessary skills and international experience for a successful career, either in the public or the private sector
- The programme responds to the challenges sometimes faced by researchers, offering them attractive working conditions and the opportunity to move between academic and other settings
- Are open to all domains of research and innovation, from fundamental research to market take-up and innovation services
- Fields are chosen freely by the applicants (individuals and/or organisations) in a fully 'bottom-up' manner

Main Policy Objectives



MSCA Key Features



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Horizon Europe - An Overview:



1. MSCA Doctoral Networks (formerly ITNs)

- Funds consortium based research projects
- Provides recruited researchers with training through research
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Provides full funding for PhD students



2. MSCA Post-Doctoral Fellowships (formerly IFs)

- Provides full funding for an individual postdoctoral researcher
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Training through research
- Opportunities for European or internationally hosted fellowships with opportunities for secondments.



3. MSCA COFUND Doctoral and Fellowship Programme

- Collaborative funding through a mono beneficiary scheme
- Training through research
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- EC provides a contribution to the funding for a cohort of PhD students or Post-Docs



4. MSCA Staff Exchange Scheme (formerly RISE)

- Funds short-term exchanges of personnel between academic, industrial and commercial organisations throughout the world
- Funds consortium based research projects
- Project implemented through the secondment of staff for a period between 1 and 12 months

Simplification and Harmonisation

Single mobility rule

- Researchers may not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc.) in the country of their (main) host organisation for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the applicable reference date

Secondment Duration

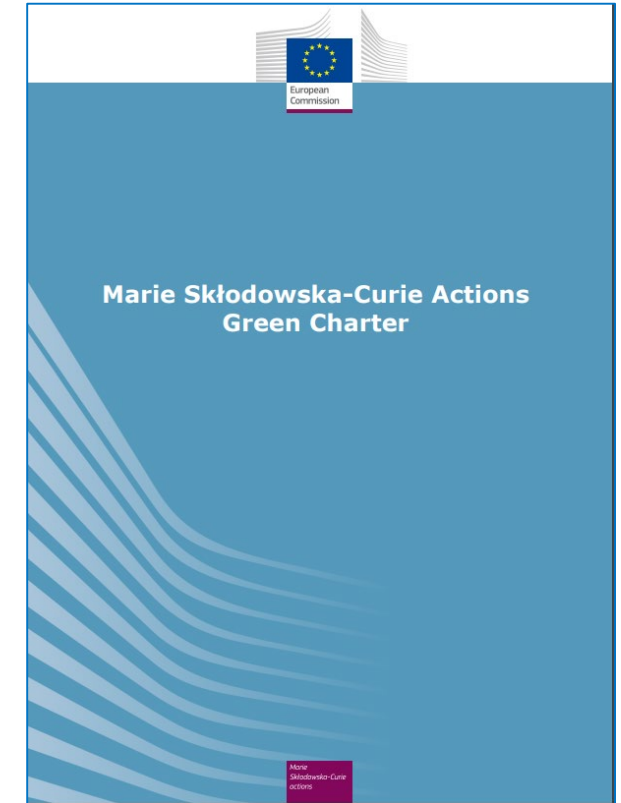
- 1/3 maximum duration of secondments
- Harmonisation across the schemes

Alignment with the rest of Horizon Europe

- Associated partners (instead of partner organisations) & affiliated entities (instead of entities with a capital or legal link)

MSCA Green Charter

- set of guiding principles
- aim to raise awareness, encourage best practice, empower fellows
- will set out to:
 - Reduce the carbon footprint of MSCA projects
 - Increase awareness on environmental issues
 - Promote sustainable behaviours and policies
- supported by additional guidance material, case studies, tools and a dedicated FAQ
- Will be reporting requirement
- NOT part of evaluation criteria



<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/2bfbb0d9-9b3c-11eb-b85c-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

MSCA Guide for Supervisors

- [The guidelines](#) set out a non-exhaustive list of recommendations, complemented by other activities, that are expected to be implemented on a best-effort basis. They particularly highlight:
- the important role the supervisor in supporting the development and wellbeing of the researcher;
- the role that the researcher has in following the principles of the [European Charter for Researcher](#), and to undertake their project as agreed, &
- the important role that institutions have in providing a safe, equitable and constructive work environments.

Upcoming MSCA calls (to be confirmed)

Double check with the MSCA Work Programme when it is published!!!

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2021 (HORIZON-MSCA-PF-2021)

- Opening date: 22 June 2021
- Deadline for submission: 12 October 2021

MSCA Doctoral Networks 2021 (HORIZON-MSCA-DN-2021)

- Opening date: 22 June 2021
- Deadline for submission: 16 November 2021

MSCA and Citizens 2022 (MSCA-CITIZENS-2022)

- Opening Date: 22 June 2021
- Deadline for submission 14 October 2021

MSCA Staff Exchanges 2021 (HORIZON-MSCA-SE-2021)

- Opening date: 07 October 2021
- Deadline for submission: 09 March 2022

MSCA COFUND 2021 (HORIZON-MSCA-COFUND-2021)

- Opening date: 11 October 2021
- Deadline for submission: 10 February 2022

MSCA Doctoral Networks

Typical Doctoral Network:

- Collaborative work in **multidisciplinary**, international consortia (academic & non-academic) applies for funding:
- - proposing competitively selected **joint research** training/doctoral **programme** for Early-Stage Researchers (ESR).
- When successful, consortium **recruits** researchers across the consortium:
 - All projects publish their vacancies on [EURAXESS](#)
 - Each researcher has an Individual Research Project
 - Employment contract with full social security (UK visa considerations)
- Duration of projects: **4 years (48 months)**
- Fellowships of 3 - 36 months (usually **36 months**)
- **New:** Maximum **360 per-person months** or **540 per person months** depending on DN type.



MSCA Doctoral Network (DN) objectives:



1. MSCA Doctoral Networks (formerly ITNs)

- Funds consortium based research projects
- Provides recruited researchers with training through research
- Mobility is key – intersectoral, interdisciplinary and international!
- Provides full funding for PhD students

- Aim to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative and resilient doctoral candidates, able to face current and future challenges and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit.
- Raise the attractiveness and excellence of doctoral training in Europe.
- Equip researchers with the right combination of research-related and transferable competences and provide them with enhanced career perspectives in both the academic and non-academic sectors through international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility combined with an innovation-oriented mind-set.

Doctoral Networks in Horizon Europe – Three Types of Consortium

Doctoral Networks

Network of international institutions. Both academic and non-academic partners are encouraged.

Industrial Doctorates

Jointly supervised by both academic and industry staff.
50% of time spent in non-academia.

Joint Doctorates

Joint delivery of a joint/double doctoral degree, recognised in at least two EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated countries .

- ❑ All subject areas

- ❑ Apply to 8 subject panels regardless of type

- ❑ Projects can include research visits, short trips, secondments, non-academic sector placement etc

Doctoral Network:

- **Doctoral Networks:** type of programme the consortium must include at least **three** independent legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and with at least **one** of them established in an EU Member State
- Duration of projects: **4 years (48 months)**
- Fellowships of 3 - 36 months (usually **36 months**)
- Maximum **360 per-person month rule**.

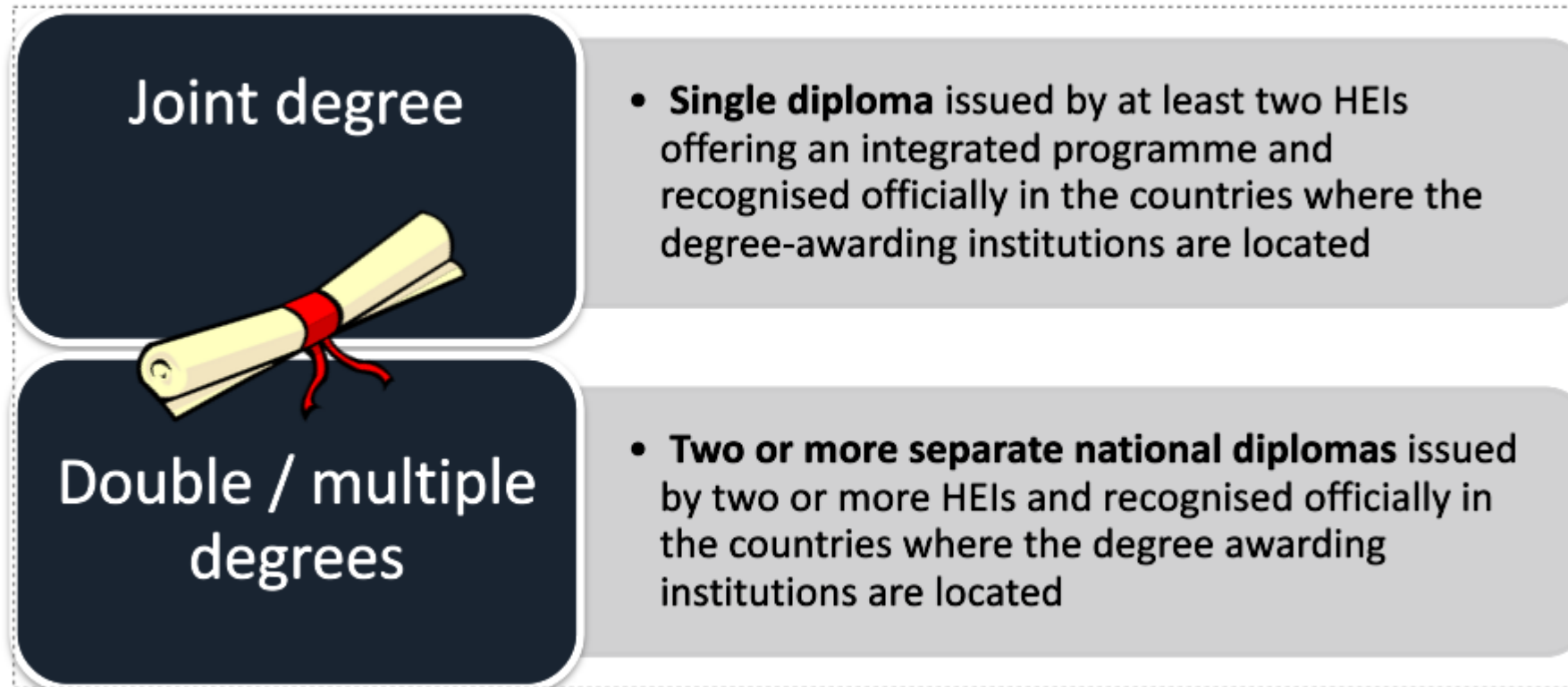
Industrial Doctorates

- **Mandatory** non-academic beneficiary (doctoral candidates must spend at least **50%** of their fellowship duration in the non-academic sector).
- Research must be in the area of the doctoral programme and should aim to **support long-term, industry-oriented research**
- Eligible for **540** person months
- Mandatory ESR **supervision** by both academic and non-academic sector.
- *ESR contract length: **36 months expected***, can be split between beneficiaries.
- **Industrial Doctorates**: For those submitting an **industrial type** programme must include at least **three** independent legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and with at least one of them established in an EU Member State. At least one of the three independent legal entities must be from the academic sector and at least one must come from the non-academic sector.

Joint Doctorates

- Creation of **coherent joint doctoral programmes** that deliver joint, double or multiple degrees
- **Recommended size:** 4-8 beneficiaries
- Ambition for **lasting doctoral-level cooperation** between the beneficiaries
- Joint selection, supervision, monitoring and assessment of ESRs through a **joint governance structure**
- **Pre-agreement** to award a joint degree required at the time of submission.
- *ESR contract:* **36 months** expected
- Eligible for **540** person months
- ESR likely to split their stay between beneficiaries to fulfil joint doctoral programme requirements.
- **Joint Doctorates:** For those submitting a **joint degree** type programme on the consortium must include at least three independent legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and with at least one of them established in an EU Member State. At least three independent legal entities must be entitled to award doctoral degrees. At least two of the institutions conferring a joint, double or multiple doctoral degree must be established in an EU Member State and/or Horizon Europe Associated Country.

Joint Doctorates



The final degree(s) must be awarded by institutions from at least two *different* countries

Eligibility Criteria – Early Stage Researcher

Eligibility and Mobility Rules

- Supported researchers must be doctoral candidates, i.e. not already in possession of a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment. (Researchers who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet formally been awarded the doctoral degree will not be considered eligible).
- Researchers must be enrolled in a doctoral programme leading to the award of a doctoral degree in at least one EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country, and for Joint Doctorates in at least two.
- Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date.
- Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays and time spent by the researcher as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not taken into account.

Proposed Budget

- Living Allowance is advertised as the **GROSS amount**
- All eligible Researcher unit costs can be subjected to taxation
- Funding is provided in EURs but fellow paid in GBP – host will apply an exchange rate that they will set
- Candidates strongly advised to check with the host institution how the salary will be calculated (national and internal rules, exchange rate policy, etc.)

Researcher Unit Costs (Contributions for recruited researchers Per person-month)					Institutional Unit Costs (Institutional unit contributions Per person-month)	
Living Allowance	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Long-term Leave Allowance	Special Needs Allowance	Research, training and networking contribution	Management and indirect contribution
EUR 3400	EUR 600	EUR 660	EUR 4000 x % covered by the beneficiary	Requested unit x (1/number of months)	EUR 1 600	EUR 1200

Researcher unit cost

Living Allowance

- is the EU contribution to the gross salary costs of the researcher
- The net salary results from deducting all compulsory (employer/employee) social security contributions as well as direct taxes
- A country correction coefficient (CCC) applies to living allowance - **136.9% for the UK**

Mobility Allowance

- **covers costs related to researcher's mobility** (e.g. relating to travel and accommodation).
- It covers private costs of the researcher

Family Allowance

- researcher **has family obligations or acquires family obligations** during the action duration
- persons linked to him/her by (i) marriage, or (ii) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country or region where this relationship was formalised; or (iii) dependent children who are actually being maintained by the researcher
- *requested when/if the need arises*

Researcher unit cost

Long-term Leave Allowance

- contributes to the **beneficiary's pay obligations related to researchers' leave**, including maternity, paternity, parental, sick or special leave, **longer than 30 consecutive days**.
- *requested when/if the need arises*

Special Needs Allowance

- contributes to the **additional costs of researchers with disabilities**, whose long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments are certified by a competent national authority and of such nature that their participation in the action may not be possible without the acquisition of special needs items or services.
- These special needs items or services shall not have been funded from another source (e.g. social security or health insurance).
- pre-defined categories are EUR 3 000, EUR 4 500, EUR 6 000, EUR 9 500, EUR 13 000, EUR 18 500, EUR 27 500, EUR 35 500, EUR 47 500 and EUR 60 000.
- *requested when/if the need arises*

Institutional unit costs

The Research, training and networking

- costs for training and networking activities that contribute directly to the researcher's career development
- It covers professional costs of the researcher
- costs for research expenses
- costs for visa-related fees and travel expenses for professional reasons
- costs arising from optional secondments and placements

Management and indirect

- covers all general costs of the host institution connected to the action (administrative and financial management, logistics, ethics, human resources, legal advice, etc.).

- ❑ Eligibility of the institutional unit costs is directly linked to (and conditional on) the eligibility of the costs for the recruited researcher
- ❑ Institutional unit costs are managed by the host institution according to the usual internal policies

Example – ESR hosted in the UK with no family

Researcher Unit Cost person/month			Institutional Unit cost person/month	
Living allowance	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs
$€3400 \times 24 \times 136.9\% = €111,710.40$	$€600 \times 24 = €14,400.00$	N/A	$€1600 \times 24 = €38,400$	$€1200 \times 24 = €28,800.00$
Total Research Unit Cost (GROSS AMOUNT)		€126,110.40	Total Institutional Unit Cost	€67,200

- Living allowance is a gross amount.
 - The net salary results from deducting all compulsory (employer/employee) social security contributions as well as direct taxes (e.g. income tax) from the gross amounts.
 - Estimate you income tax here: <https://www.gov.uk/estimate-income-tax>
- The **mobility and family allowances** are fixed amounts, regardless of the country of recruitment, and can be subject to the tax laws of the country of recruitment.

Recent UK NCP webinars

- [Introduction to ERC and MSCA in Horizon Europe](#) (March 2021)
- [MSCA 2021 Postdoctoral Fellowships Call Information Event](#) (April 2021)
- [MSCA 2021 Doctoral Networks Call Information Event](#), (May 2021)
- [MSCA NCP website](#)

Any Questions?