

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## Opportunities for Universities and Individual Researchers

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Directorate-General Education and Culture

**Demokritus University of Thrace  
Xanthi, 19 April 2016**



# MSCA



**The three pillars of H2020**



## **MSCA Objective:**

Ensure the optimum development and dynamic use of Europe's intellectual capital in order to generate new skills, knowledge and innovation

**Budget 2014-2020:** €6 162 million

€756.5 million in 2016 for all calls together

# MSCA - Key features

- Open to all domains of **research and innovation** from basic research up to market take-up and innovation services;
- Entirely **bottom-up**;
- Participation of **non-academic sector** strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs;
- Open to researchers at **all career stages** and flexible funding periods;
- **Mobility** as the key requirement - funding on condition participants move from one country to another;
- No **nationality** or **age** restrictions;
- Promotion of attractive **working and employment conditions**;
- Particular attention to a **quality of opportunities**;

# MSCA **Funding** schemes

Individual Fellowships	<b>IF</b> experienced Researchers 'post-Doc'	Support for experienced researchers to undertake international and inter-sector mobility, incl. career restart and reintegration
Innovative Training Networks	<b>ITN</b> early-stage Researchers 'pre-Doc'	Doctoral and initial training: European Training Networks, European Industrial Doctorates, European Joint Doctorates
Co-funding of programmes	<b>COFUND</b> 'pre-Doc' or 'post-Doc'	Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes: - doctoral programmes (ESR) - fellowship programmes (ER)
Research and Innovation Staff Exchange	<b>RISE</b> 'pre-Doc' or 'post-Doc'	International and inter-sector cooperation through the exchange of staff (scientific, administrative and technical)

# What **can** be funded?

## 1) Costs of researchers/fellows and seconded staff

Living allowance or Top-up allowance

Mobility allowance

Family allowance

## 2) Organisational costs for host institutions

Research, networking and training costs

Management and indirect costs

# MSC actions – Financial Overview

RISE	Research, networking, training costs	1800 €	Top-up allowance	2000 €
	Management and indirect costs	700 €		
ITN	Research, networking, training costs	1800 €	Living allowance*	3110 €
	Management and indirect costs	1200 €	Mobility allowance	600 €
			Family allowance	500 €
IF	Research, networking, training costs	800 €	Living allowance*	4650 €
	Management and indirect costs	500 €	Mobility allowance	600 €
			Family allowance	500 €
COFUND	Management costs	325 €	Living allowance Early-stage researchers	1855 €
			Living allowance Experienced researchers	2625 €

\* The living allowance base rate is multiplied by Country Correction Coefficient – for Greece 92,7%

**Which MSCA  
should you  
choose?**

**You  
are  
an  
individual  
researcher**



# Opportunities for **individual** researchers

- As a researcher I want to...
  - ✓ Undertake a **project** in Europe or outside Europe;
  - ✓ Spend my time at **leading labs**; Opportunities to work and train with the best researchers in Europe and worldwide;
  - ✓ Be part of a well-established and **prestigious programme**;
  - ✓ Benefit from **good working conditions**: employment contracts, full social security, very competitive salaries etc.\*;
  - ✓ Work with **businesses**;
  - ✓ Be part of an **exchange**...
  - ✓ Access to top level conferences, **professional** associations & Marie Curie Alumni;

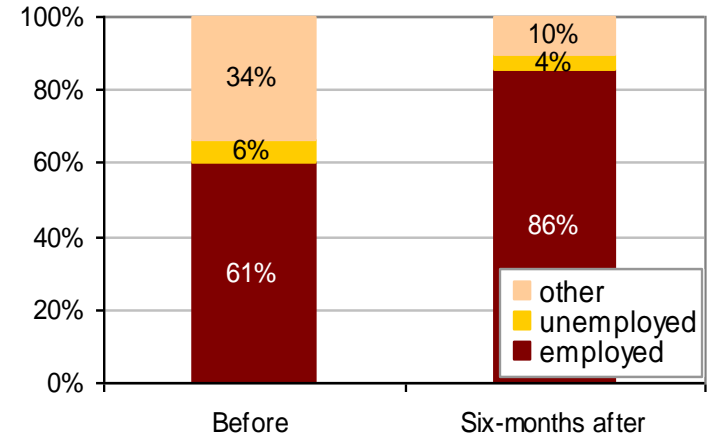
## **... Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions!**

- *\*European Charter for Researchers and code for conduct for recruitment; the Democritus University of Thrace has signed it.*

# Opportunities for individual researchers

Compare to researchers in general:

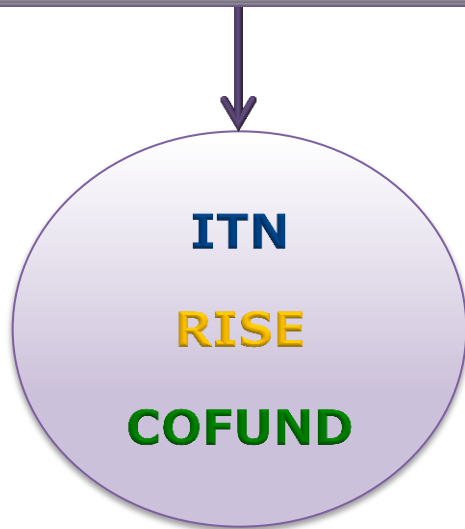
- **Short-term employability**
  - ❖ MSC fellowships are very effective in improving fellows' short-term employability;
  - ❖ MSC fellows are some 8% more likely of obtaining a permanent position after the fellowship;
  - ❖ MSC fellows are more likely to obtain an ERC grant;
- **Retention by hosts**
  - ❖ MSC fellows are some 11% more likely to be retained by hosts, especially after long fellowships.



# Opportunities for **individual** researchers

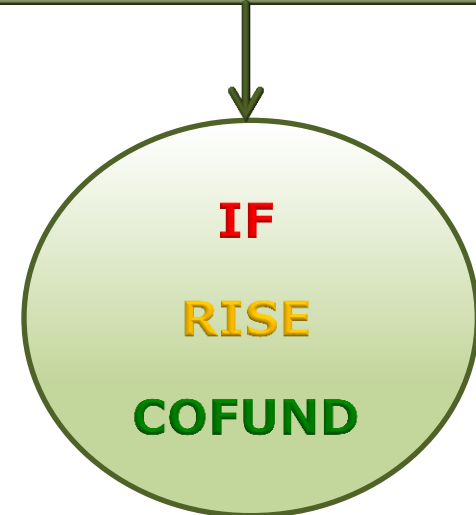
## Early-stage Researchers (ESR)

Less than four years of research experience and no doctoral degree



## Experienced Researchers (ER)

At least four years of research experience and/or a doctoral degree



**You  
are  
a  
host  
organisation**

# Opportunities for **host** organisations: who **can** participate?

## Academia

Public or private **High Education Institutions**  
awarding academic degrees

Public or private **non-profit research organisations**

International **European interest** organisations

Universities

Non-profit  
research  
institutes

IEIOs

## Business and non-academia

*Broad definition:*

Any socio-economic actor not  
included in the academic  
sector definition

Industry

SMEs

Other socio-  
economic  
actors



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# Host organisations

## Choose your level of involvement

### Start getting involved

- ✓ Host secondments  
RISE, IF
- ✓ Provide specific training modules  
ITN, Cofund

### Focus on core business & short- to medium-term research agenda

- ✓ Recruit one or more researchers during their entire fellowship IF, ITN
- ✓ Build around a common research project  
RISE, ITN
- ✓ Get co-funding for your doctoral or fellowship programme Cofund

### Develop medium- to long-term collaborations around a common strategy

- ✓ Gain and transfer knowledge/expertise through staff exchange
- ✓ Take part in shaping the training of researchers you would like to hire
- ✓ Develop a European Industrial Doctorate with academic partner(s) from another country

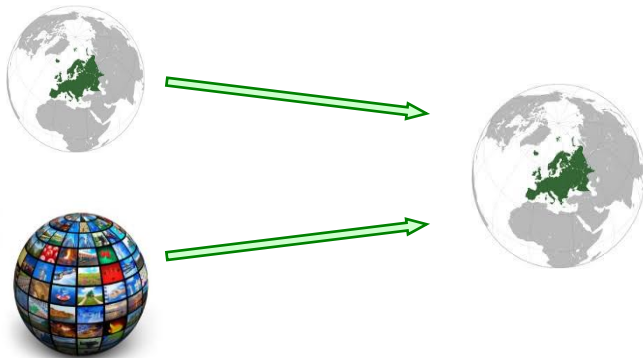


# Individual fellowships - Main Features

- Only for **experienced** researchers;
- Focus on **career development**, not necessarily experience;
- Open to hosts from both **academic** and **non-academic** sectors;
- Can include **3 – 6 months at another organisation** anywhere in Europe ("on secondment");
- **Mobility:** Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the host organisation for *more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline*;
- Separate multidisciplinary panels for **Society & Enterprise** (€10m earmarked budget), **Career Restart**, and **Reintegration** – all with the same **special mobility rule**;
- Duration: **2 years** (Global Fellowships: **3 years**).

# IF - Individual Fellowships

## European Fellowships

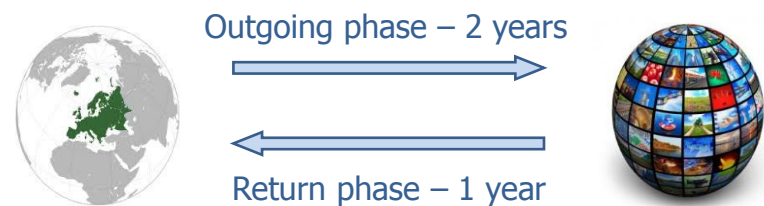


Society and Enterprise Panel

Reintegration Panel

Career Restart Panel

## Global Fellowships



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# IF Reintegration Panel

**Return and reintegration** of researchers into a **longer term** research position in Europe

- Separate multi-disciplinary **reintegration** panel (RI);
- Researchers must be a national or long-term resident of **EU or AC**;
  - **Long term resident**: at least 5 consecutive years of research activity in one or more EU Member State or AC;
- Mobility rule different: Applicants must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the country of the host organisation for *more than* **36 months** in the **5 years** immediately prior to the call deadline;
  - Mobility **into** Europe is essential.

# COFUND

- Co-funding new or existing **regional, national, and international** programmes;
- **Fellowships** programmes (ER) or **Doctoral** programmes (ESR);
- **Mono-beneficiary**: any organisation funding or managing doctoral or post- doctoral programmes; could be universities, research centres, industries etc.; signs the grant agreement;
- **Partner organisations**: could be universities, research centres, industries etc.; do not sign the grant agreement;
- **Minimum** living allowance fixed in the Work Programme; No correction coefficient applies in the living allowance;
- EU contribution to co-fund living allowances for researchers and management costs;
- Budget for 2016 call: **€ 80 Million** (Doctoral Programmes: 30 Mio)

# COFUND Fellowships Programmes

- MSCA COFUND fellowships projects offer 'post-doc' positions **similar** to the **IF**;
- Employment **contracts** with full social security;
- **Minimum** which hosting organisations should pay their COFUND fellows: **3675 €**;
- All positions are **advertised** on the European Researcher Mobility Portal EURAXESS  
<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/jobs>

# COFUND **Doctoral** Programmes

- MSCA COFUND projects offer PhD candidate-level positions **similar** to those in an **ITN** programme
- Employment **contracts** with full social security;
- **Minimum** monthly rate which hosting organisations should pay their COFUND fellows:  
**2597€**
- All positions are **advertised** on the European Researcher Mobility Portal EURAXESS  
<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/jobs>

# ITN

## Innovative Training Networks

- Raise excellence and structure **research** and **doctoral training**;
- **Trigger cooperation** and exchange of best practice among participants;
- Enhance researchers' **employability** and provide them with new career perspectives;
- Only for **early stage researchers**;
- Fellowships of **3-36 months** ;
- Project duration up to **4 years** ;
- Maximum **540** person-months (EID: 180) ;
- Budget for 2016 call: **€ 370 Million** (EID: 25 Mio, EJD 28 Mio)



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# ITN – 3 modes of implementation

## ✓ ETN - European Training Networks

- at least **3 beneficiaries** from **3 different EU MS** or **AC**. Above this minimum any country can participate;

## ✓ EID - European Industrial Doctorates

- at least **2 beneficiaries** established in **2 different MS** or **AC**;
- At least **one beneficiary** must be entitled to **award doctoral degrees** and at least **one beneficiary** must come from the **non-academic sector**, primarily enterprise;
- Each researcher - enrolled in a doctoral programme and spend **at least 50%** in the non-academic sector;
- The **joint supervision** of fellows by supervisors from each sector is **mandatory**;

## ✓ EJD - European Joint Doctorates

- at least **3 beneficiaries** from **different EU MS** or **AC** which are entitled to award doctoral degrees;
- creation of **joint doctoral programmes**, leading to the delivery of joint, double or multiple doctoral degrees.

# RISE

## Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

- Common **research and innovation project**;
- International and inter-sector **transfer of knowledge** and sharing of ideas and of R&I culture;
- **Staff member** – researchers or administrative or technical staff at least 6 months at the sending institution;
- **Secondments** from 1 to 12 months;
- Project duration up to **4 years**;
- Maximum **540** person-months;
- **No** correction coefficient applies to the top-up allowance;
- Budget for 2016 call: **€ 80 Million**;

# RISE – Eligibility Conditions

- At least **3 independent participants** in 3 different countries
- At least 2 participants from **2 different MS/AC**
- If **all in MS/AC**: at least 1 academic and 1 non-academic

## In addition:

- **All Countries** can participate in RISE;
- **All nationalities** can participate in RISE;
- **All institutions** fulfilling the requirements of the *Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation* can participate in RISE;
- **No mobility rules\*** for RISE;

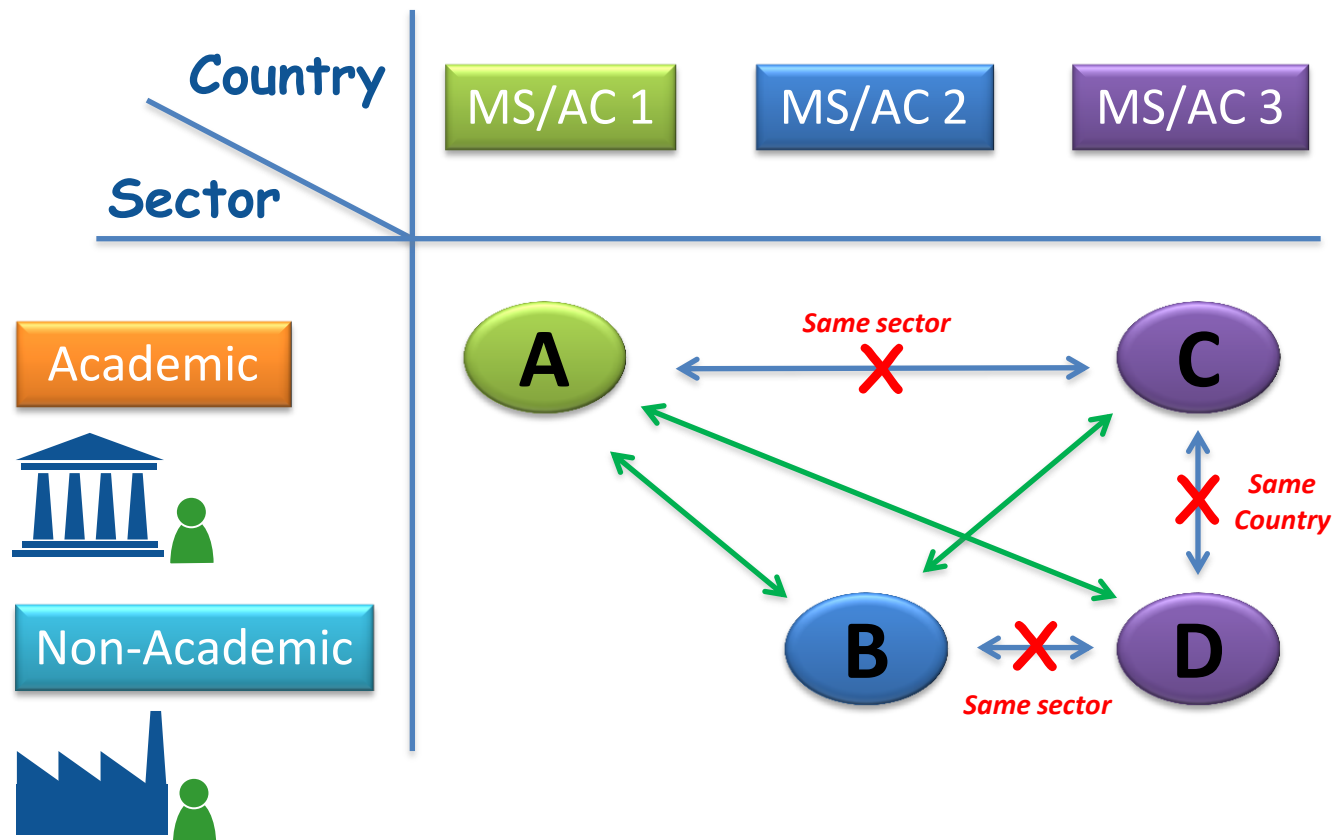
*\* Only inter-sector secondments within Europe;*

*No secondments between institutions located outside Europe or within the same MS/AC*

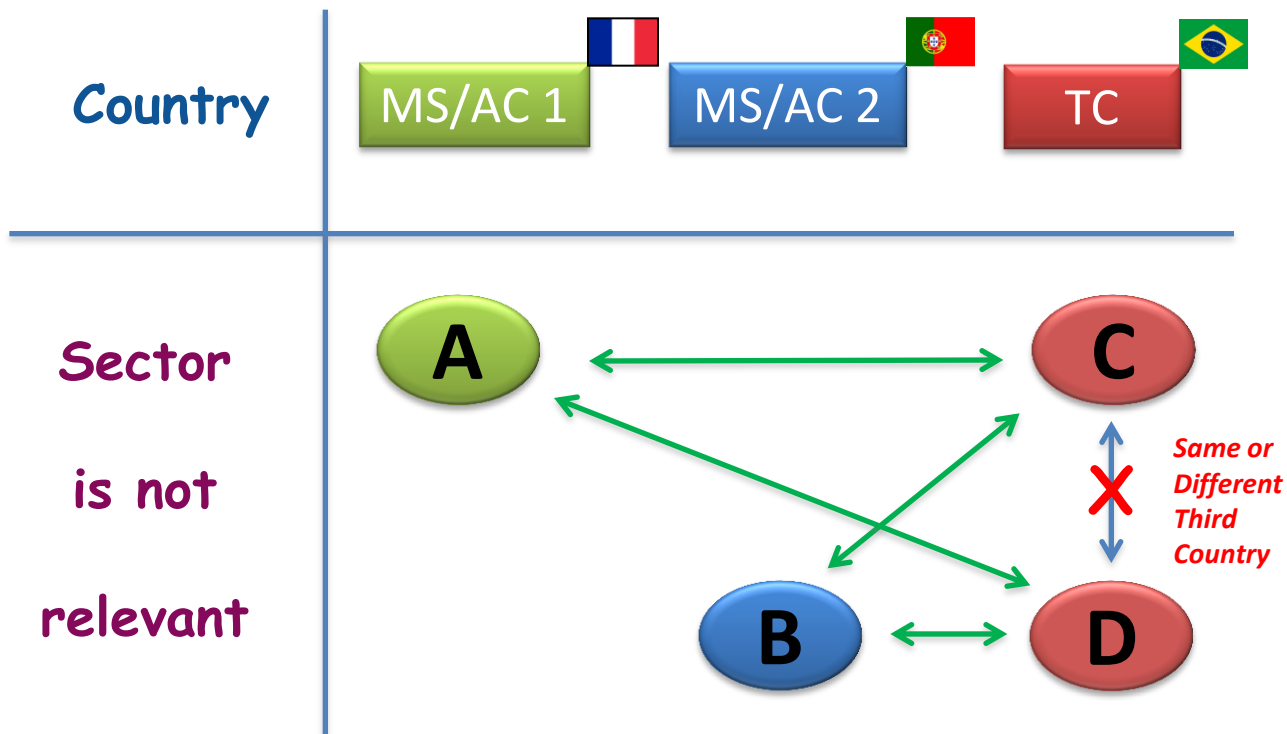
*On top of minimum of three organisations other may participate. The average number of participants in RISE is 8.*



## Examples: Intra-European Exchanges



## Examples: Europe-Third Countries Exchanges

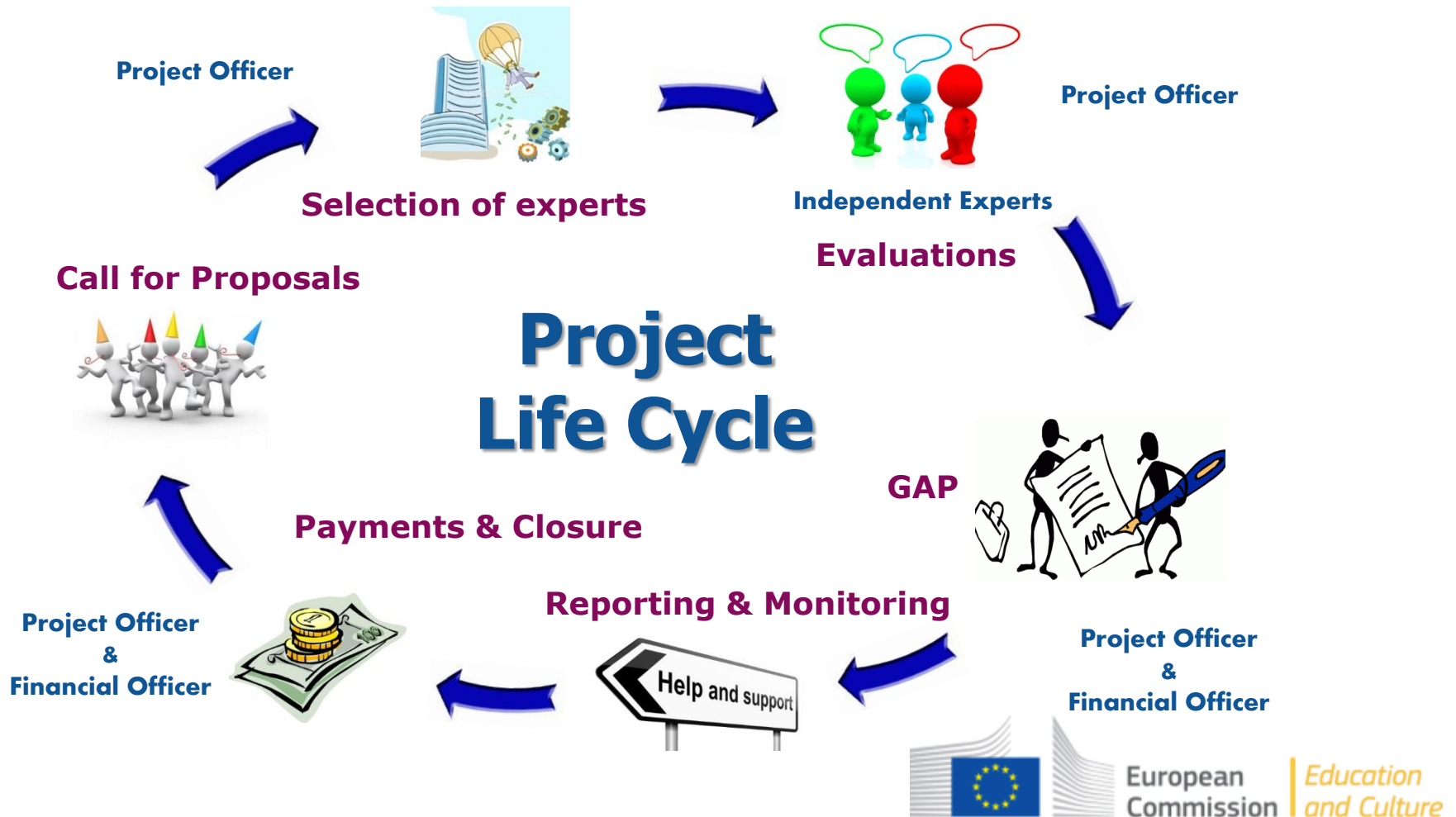


Secondments from a TC to a MS/AC are not always eligible for EU funding but all of them must be described in the proposal.

# Opportunities for the Democritus University of Thrace

- **Host** individual fellowships for experienced researchers (f.ex. reintegration fellowship for Greek researchers based abroad);
- Coordinate or participate as **beneficiary** or **partner** in ITN and RISE projects;
- **Exchange** staff via RISE projects (research, administrative or technical staff);
- Participate as **partner** in Cofund projects;

# Project Management Aspects



# Hints for a **successful** Proposal

## **Before you start preparing your proposal**

- ❖ Read carefully the **Work Programme**, at least the part that interests you the most;
  - ❖ Read more than carefully the **Guide for applicants**;
  - ❖ Provide the evaluators with evidence for your claims, but **avoid** external resources (links to websites etc.);
  - ❖ Graphics and charts can be very helpful, but **don't overdo** it! Make sure they are readable in black & white;
  - ❖ Page limit **10 pages** (for IF) and **30 pages** (for ITN and RISE) to be absolutely respected.
- ❖ Take also note of the following...

# Hints for a **successful** proposal

- ❖ Proposal should make the evaluators' "life" **easier** (consistent, well-written, "built" around the award criteria);
- ❖ The evaluators may not all be world experts in **exactly** the area of your proposal – avoid using very specific jargon and acronyms!
- ❖ Provide the evaluators with evidence for your claims, but **avoid** external resources (links to websites etc.);
- ❖ Graphics and charts can be very helpful, but **don't overdo** it! Make sure they are readable in black & white.
- ❖ Check the English with a **native speaker** if possible.
- ❖ Take also note of the following...

# Hints for a **successful IF Proposal**

- ❖ Explain the contribution that your project is expected to make. Your project should be innovative and original. **It cannot look like a continuation of a PhD.**
- ❖ Demonstrate the expertise of the host institution as well as the expertise of the scientific in charge in the field of research you want to explore. Information must be given **on host's expertise in training experienced researchers** and capacity to provide mentoring/tutoring.
- ❖ Describe how this project will **contribute to your own career.** The potential of the fellow to acquire new competencies should be clearly described.

# • Structure of the Proposal

## Part A

- structured data -

European Commission - Research - Participants  
Proposal Submission Forms  
Research Executive Agency

Horizon 2020  
Sub-programme  
Call: H2020-MSCA-ITN-2014  
Topic: MSCA-ITN-2014-ETN  
Action: MSCA-ITN-ETN  
Proposal Number: SEP-210132046  
Proposal Acronym: 123

Validate Form Save And Close

Table of contents

Section	Title
1	General information
2	Participants & contacts
3	Budget
4	Ethics
5	Call-specific questions

How to fill in the forms?  
The administrative forms must be filled in for each proposal using the templates available in the submission system. The data fields in the administrative forms are pre-filled based on the previous steps in the submission workflow.

H2020-ITN.pdf - Ver 1.54 20140318 Page 1 of 12 Last saved: 24/03/2014 at 16:08

## Part B

- description of action -

PROPOSAL ACRONYM - Standard EF / CAR / R1 / GF  
(Delete as appropriate and include as header on each page)

Part B Template

START PAGE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Individual Fellowships (IF)  
Call: H2020-MSCA-IF-2014

PART B

"PROPOSAL ACRONYM"  
"Title"

This proposal is to be evaluated as:  
[Standard EF] [CAR] [R1] [GF]  
(Delete as appropriate)

Part B - Page X of Y

Commission Education and Culture

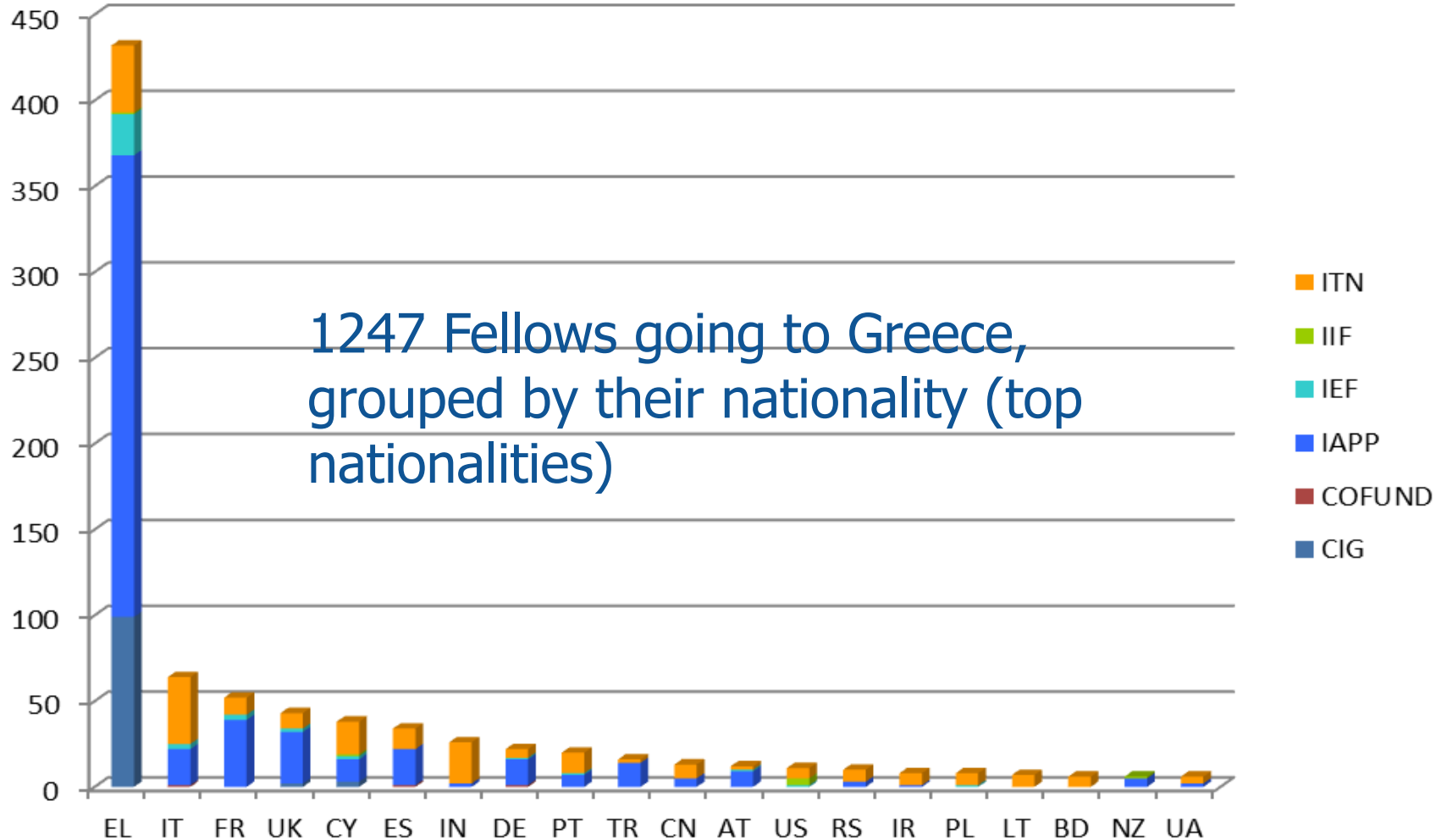


# Greece in MCA

(FP7 2007-2013)

MSCA Fellows from Greece	1720
Fellows hosted in Greece	1247
Participations of all organisations from Greece	449
Participations of businesses from Greece	110
Number of SMEs from Greece	26

1247 Fellows going to Greece,  
grouped by their nationality (top  
nationalities)



1720 Greek fellows grouped  
by the country of  
destination (top countries):



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# Greece in MSCA

(H2020)

MSCA Fellows from Greece	206
Fellows hosted in Greece	84
Participations of all organisations from Greece	151
Participations of businesses from Greece	54
Number of SMEs from Greece	24

# MSCA 2016-2017 Calls

Funding scheme	Call deadlines	Budget
ITN	15/10/2015 – 12/01/2016 <b>15/09/2016 – 10/01/2017</b>	EUR 370.00 million EUR 430.00 million
IF	<b>12/04/2016 – 14/09/2016</b> 11/04/2017 – 14/09/2017	EUR 218.50 million EUR 248.00 million
RISE	08/12/2015 – 28/04/2016 <b>01/12/2016 – 05/04/2017</b>	EUR 80.00 million EUR 80.00 million
COFUND	<b>14/04/2016 – 29/09/2016</b> 05/04/2017 – 28/09/2017	EUR 80.00 million EUR 80.00 million

# IPR Helpdesk for IPR-related issues



<https://www.iprhelphdesk.eu/>



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# Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)



The screenshot shows the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) website. At the top, there is a blue header with the European Commission logo and the text "ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK". Below the header, a navigation bar contains links: Home, About, Services, Events, Success stories, and News & Media. The main content area features a large "services" banner with a background image of a crowd of people. On the left, there is a sidebar with sections for "Share Success Stories" (including a "Success Stories Feed" and "Embed Success Stories" option) and "Services" (listing "Going international" and "Technology"). The main content area is titled "Our services" and includes a search bar and a list of services: "Learn more about what we can do for your company in the following areas:" followed by a bulleted list: "Going international", "Technology transfer", "Access to finance", "Research funding", "Advice on EU law and standards", "Intellectual property and patents", and "Speak up on EU law".

European Commission

ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

European Commission > Enterprise Europe Network > Services > Our services

Home About Services Events Success stories News & Media

services

Share Success Stories

Success Stories Feed

Embed Success Stories

Services

Going international Technology

**Our services**

Learn more about what we can do for your company in the following areas:

- Going international
- Technology transfer
- Access to finance
- Research funding
- Advice on EU law and standards
- Intellectual property and patents
- Speak up on EU law

Search

<http://een.ec.europa.eu/>



# More Information

**Marie Skłodowska-Curie Website**

**<http://ec.europa.eu/msca>**

**Horizon2020**

**<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020>**

**Participant Portal (applications/documents)**

**<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal>**

**Euraxess (jobs, rights, services, etc.)**

**<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/>**

**European Charter for Researchers**

**<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/rights/whatIsAResearcher>**

**MSCA on Facebook**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions>**

**MSCA on Twitter @MSCactions**



# For questions

- **H2020 Help desk**
- <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=enquiries>
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/faq.html>
- **National Contact Points**
- [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national\\_contact\\_points.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html)
- **Marie Curie Alumni Association**
- <https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/>

# Thanks for your attention

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