Calls from the ERC
-The European Research Council-

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Horizon Europe

Pillar 1
Excellent Science

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

- 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
Guiding Principles & what does the ERC grant offer?

- Scientific Excellence is the sole criterion
- Applications can be made in any field of research/ bottom-up approach
- Individual research teams led by a single PI can apply (no consortium)
- Attract top team members and collaborators (EU and non-EU)
- Attract additional funding and gain recognition: ERC Grant is a recognised label of excellence! (e.g. Startinggrant.se)
ERC Funding Schemes

**STG**
Starting Grants
(2-7 years after PhD)
up to €1.5 Million
for 5 years
+ up to €1 Million

**COG**
Consolidator Grants
(7-12 years after PhD)
up to €2 Million
for 5 years
+ up to €1 Million

**ADG**
Advanced Grants
10 years' track-record
up to €2.5 Million
for 5 years
+ up to €1 Million

**Proof-of-Concept - PoC**
briding gap between research –
earliest stage of marketable innovation
€150,000 for ERC grant holders

**Synergy Grant - SYG**
2-4 Principal Investigators
No call in 2021
Researcher Career Development & Appropriate Grants

- Senior Professor
- ERC AdG - Advanced
- ERC CoG - Consolidator
- ERC StG - Starting
- Marie Skłodowska Curie
- Erasmus
- Researcher Career Development & Appropriate Grants
- PhD
- Post-doc
- Assistant Professor
- Professor
- Senior Professor
StG Starting Grant

- Starting own independent research team or programme
- Already shown the potential for research independence and maturity
- At least one important publication as main author or without participation of PhD supervisor
- Promising early achievements track-record
- Have good leadership potential (e.g. teaching, supervised students)
- Minimum time commitment 50%

CoG Consolidator Grant

- Still be consolidating their own independent research team
- Already shown research independence and maturity
- Several important publications as main author or without participation of PhD supervisor
- Have good leadership potential (e.g. teaching, supervised students)
- Senior authorship
- Minimum time commitment 40%
ERC Proposal Structure

**Administrative forms (part A)**
- Proposal Info
- HI, PI info
- Budget/ Resources
- Ethics
- Call specific info

**Annexes**
- HI letter
- PhD certificate
- Proof of extension
- Ethics issues (if applicable)

**PART B1**
- Cover page with summary
  
  Section 1 Research Proposal
  - 1a Extended synopsis *(5 pages)*
  - 1a References no page limit
  - 1b CV
  - 1c Early achievements

**PART B2**
- Section 2 Scientific Proposal
  - 2a S-o-t-A + objectives
  - 2b Methodology
  - Resources (Part A) *(15 pages)*
  References (no page limit)
ERC Proposal Evaluation:

-Single Submission, but a Two-Step Evaluation

Step 1
Panel Evaluates Part B1

Step 2
Panel + External experts Evaluate Part B1 + B2 + Interview in Brussels

In Horizon Europe: also for Advanced Grant!

Re-submission restrictions applies!
PE: Physical Science & Engineering

1. Mathematics
2. Fundamental Constituents of Matter
3. Condensed Matter Physics
4. Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences
5. Synthetic Chemistry and Materials
6. Computer Science and Informatics
7. Systems and Communication Engineering
8. Products and Processes Engineering
9. Universe Sciences
10. Earth System Science
11. Materials Engineering

SH: Social Sciences & Humanities

1. Individuals, Markets and Organisations
2. Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
3. The Social World and its Diversity
4. The Human Mind and its Complexity
5. Cultures and Cultural Production
6. The Study of the Human Past
7. Human Mobility, Environment, and Space

LS: Life Sciences

1. Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanism, Structures and Functions
2. Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems
3. Cellular, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
4. Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing
5. Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System
6. Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy
7. Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Disease
8. Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution
9. Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering
ERC’s Evaluation used by National Funders

• VR funds ERC Reserve list- A candidates (StG,CoG)

• Candidates who applied for ERC Starting Grant, A in Step 2 but did not get funding from ERC

→ Can apply for funding via startinggrant.se foundation. Funding by: Erling-Persson, Kempe, Olle Engkvist, Ragnar Söderberg or RJ
ERC Grants: High Risk/High Gain nature

Low Risk/High Gain

"low hanging fruit"

High Risk/High Gain

"why bother?"

Low Risk/Low Gain

Local funding

High Risk/Low Gain

Other EU-calls

Low Scientific Gain

High Scientific Gain

Low Risk

High Risk
Thinking of Applying for an ERC Grant?

• Am I internationally competitive as a researcher at my career stage and in my discipline?

• Am I able to work independently, and to manage a 5-year project with a substantial budget?

• Why is my proposed project important? Can it lead to a paradigm-shift?

• Is it ambitious and does it aim to go beyond the state-of-the-art?

• Why am I the best/only person to carry it out?

• Is it timely? Why was it not done in past? Is it feasible now?

• What’s is the risk? Is it justified but the potential gain? Do I have a plan for managing the risk?
**ERC Success rates during H2020 (2014-2020)**

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<tr>
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<th>StG</th>
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### Forthcoming ERC Calls in Horizon Europe

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Call</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>StG 2021</td>
<td>9 March 2021*</td>
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<tr>
<td>SyG 2021</td>
<td>Cancelled</td>
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<td>CoG 2021</td>
<td>20 April 2021*</td>
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<td>AdG 2021</td>
<td>31 August 2021*</td>
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<td>StG 2022</td>
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<td>November 2021</td>
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<td>CoG 2022</td>
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*Tentative dates*
Process and Timeframe for researchers at Linköping University applying for an ERC grant

Spring 2020

Meeting to discuss:
call/eligibility/concept/checklist
& inform about requirement for ‘Approval’ from the head of department

Autumn 2020

Workshop ERC Proposal Writing

Early January 2021

Discuss budget and organize ‘Approval of Conditions Form’ from head of Department

Mid January

February 2021

Deadline March

Organize Host Institution letter

Review Proposals at an agreed upon time-point

Submission by researcher

*Document for ERC processes at LiU is available at www.liu.se/G0