

National Contact Point “Mobility”

This Newsletter provides information on the open call for proposals for European Fellowships – Marie Skłodowska-Curie individual grants accessible to researchers from any country, including Russia.

EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS – MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS (MSCA IF-EF)

Call Identifier: [H2020-MSCA-IF-2014](#)

Publication Date: 12-03-2014

Deadline Date: **11-09-2014**, 17-00 (Brussels time)

Total Call Budget: €240,500,000

Main Pillar: Excellent Science

Topic: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships (IF-EF), [MSCA-IF-2014-EF](#)

The Call for proposals for European Fellowships is held by the European Commission through one of the key components of [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\)](#)¹ - **Individual Fellowships (IF)**.

Individual Fellowships (IF) aim at enhancing the creative and innovative potential of **Experienced Researchers from any country (including Russia)** wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition and to enhance their career growth through advanced training, international and inter-sectoral mobility. The scheme opens opportunities to acquire and transfer new knowledge and to work on research in a European context (European Union Member States (EU MS) and Associated Countries (AC)²) or beyond Europe, as well as to maximise fellow’s contribution to the development of economy and society. IF also support fellows who want to return to Europe and/or resume their research there after a career break or work in a third country.

IF participants are host organisations and experienced researchers.

Eligible host organisations may belong to either **academic or non-academic sector**:

➤ *Academic sector:*

- public or private higher education establishments awarding academic degrees;
- public or private non-profit institutions whose primary mission is to pursue research;

¹ Special subprogramme of the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation [Horizon 2020](#) (2014-2020)

² Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Israel, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, and Turkey

- International European Interest Organisations (IEIOs)¹.
- *Non-academic sector*
 - private enterprises (like SMEs);
 - non-profit or charitable entities (e.g. NGOs or trusts), museums, hospitals, etc.);
 - International organisations established in EU MS or AC.

During the project implementation, organisations may perform the following **functions**:

- *Beneficiary* – a host organisation based in EU or AC, which signs the Grant Agreement with the EC, is fully responsible for executing the proposal and is a recipient of all the funds. Beneficiary employs an eligible researcher, supervises his/her work during the project, and ensures through appointment of a supervisor performance of training and professional skills improvement program. The host institutions will be required to meet certain conditions relating to the recruitment of researchers, which should be in line with the principles set out in **the European Charter for Researchers** and in **the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers**². Prior to signing of the Grant Agreement the beneficiary must check the information regarding the eligibility of the Experienced Researcher at the deadline for submission of proposals (i.e. diploma, research experience, mobility, etc.).
- *Partner* – an organisation which participates in the project, signs agreement with the beneficiary, provides additional training and hosts researchers during secondments, and does not sign agreements with the EC and fellows. Partner organisations are not eligible to claim their costs directly from the grant.

Before submission of a project proposal, all the participating institutions (a beneficiary and partners) must be registered at the Participant Portal and have a unique **Participant Identification Code (PIC)**. PIC is assigned to a legal entity once and is used by all units in its structure throughout the implementation period of all the Horizon 2020 subprogrammes. The PIC, assigned to the entity during the EU 7th Framework Programme, is also valid for Horizon 2020.

Experienced Researcher – a specialist, who is in possession of a doctoral degree or has at least 4 years of full-time equivalent research experience from the date of university graduation.

Mobility rule – a researcher must not have resided or carried out the main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the deadline for submission of proposals. Short stays, such as holidays, are not taken into account. This rule does not apply to the hosting of eligible researchers by international European interest organisations or international organisations established in EU MS or AC. However, the researcher must not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the deadline for the submission of proposals at one of such host organisations.

Project Supervisor is appointed by the host organisation to manage researcher's work during the project period. The supervisor is the contact person at the host institution for communications with the Research Executive Agency (REA) from the time of proposal submission and to the time of signing of the Grant Agreement.

¹ International organisations based on EU MS or AC membership, whose principal activity is to promote scientific and technological cooperation in Europe ([Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation](#))

² http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/pdf/brochure_rights/am509774CEE_EN_E4.pdf

Individual Fellowships are divided into

- *Global Fellowships (GF)*
- *European Fellowships (EF)*

Global Fellowships (GF)

Experienced Researcher – either a national or a long-term resident¹ of EU MS and AC is sent on a secondment to a partner organisation in a **Third Country (TC)**, not included in EU and AC, e.g. Russia, for the period of 1 to 2 years for a research project and enhancement of his/her career growth. Once the secondment phase is over, the fellow must return to the host organisation (the beneficiary) located in EU MS or AC and proceed with the started research within 1 year. Any partner institution located outside the EU MS or AC must include an up-to-date letter of commitment in Part B of the proposal to demonstrate their real and active participation in the proposed action. Their precise role should also be clearly described in the proposal.

European Fellowships (EF)

Experienced Researcher – a national of any country, including Russia, moves to or within EU MS or AC for the period of 1 to 2 years for a research project and improvement of his/her professional skills.

The choice of the research topic, preparation and submission of a project proposal are carried out by the supervisor from a host organisation located in EU MS/AC together with a fellow.

One of the parts of the proposal is the **Career Development Plan**. In addition to research objectives, this plan comprises researcher's training and career needs, including training on transferrable skills, planning for publications and participation in conferences.

Training activities may include:

- Primarily, *training-through-research* under the direct supervision of the supervisor and other members of the scientific staff of the host organisation by the means of an individual personalised action;
- *Hands-on* training activities for developing scientific (new techniques, equipment, instruments, etc.) and additional skills (preparation of proposals to request funding, patent applications, management of IPR, action management, task coordination, supervising and monitoring, etc.);
- Inter-sectoral or interdisciplinary transfer of knowledge (e.g. through secondments);
- Taking part in the research and financial management of the action;
- Organisation of scientific/training/dissemination events;
- Communication, outreach activities and horizontal skills;
- Training dedicated to gender issues - equality of men and women in research and innovation. Training researchers on gender issues serves the policy objectives of [Horizon 2020](#)² and is necessary for the implementation of R&I actions³.

Participants of MSCA projects must also demonstrate their contribution to the realisation of the EU strategy "Innovation Union"⁴, including:

¹ Long-term residence means a period of full-time research activity within at least 5 consecutive years.

² [Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015, part 3, Introduction](#)

³ [Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015, General Annexes, D. Types of action: specific provisions and funding rates](#)

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm

- enhancing the creative and innovative potential of the researcher through training, international and inter-sectoral mobility, which facilitates strengthening competitiveness, achieving research excellence, and addressing societal challenges;
- creating additional jobs, training skilled researchers, introducing new technologies, or making our lives more comfortable by other means;
- making better use of project results through their dissemination to policy-makers, business and scientific community.

The proposal should also contain the plan of activities aimed to create awareness among the general public of the research work, performed within the overall duration of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship, through mass media and/or participation in European Researchers' Night¹ events, organized regularly by the EC for students from primary and secondary schools or universities in order to develop their interest in research careers.

EF applicants may include in the proposal a secondment phase in another academic or non-academic institution in Europe. The secondment phase can be a single period or divided into shorter mobility periods. The maximum period of secondments should be defined according to the total duration of the fellowships:

Duration of the fellowship (months)	Maximum duration of secondment (months)
≤ 18	3
> 18	6

The secondments must take place in partner organisations, which is considered as an additional advantage in the evaluation of the proposal.

EF are classified in three groups:

1. Standard European Fellowships (Standard EF)
2. Career Restart Panel (CAR)
3. Reintegration Panel (RI)

Researchers from the Russian Federation may apply for **Standard European Fellowships or Career Restart Panel (CAR)**. RI is open only to nationals and long-term residents of EU MS and AC.

Standard European Fellowships (Standard EF)

According to the topics of research projects, proposals for Standard EF may be submitted for evaluation to one of the 8 scientific disciplines: Chemistry (CHE), Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC), Economic Sciences (ECO), Information Science and Engineering (ENG), Environment and Geosciences (ENV), Life Sciences (LIF), Mathematics (MAT) and Physics (PHY). During the evaluation, each scientific discipline will have a separate ranking list.

Career Restart Panel (CAR)

CAR provides financial support to specialists who want to resume research in Europe after a career break (e.g. after parental leave, working outside research etc.). The applicant must indicate in the proposal one of the 8 scientific areas² his or her research will be resumed in.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/research/researchersnight/index_en.htm

² These areas have the same categorisation as the scientific disciplines of the standard EF, i.e.: Chemistry (CHE), Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC), Economic Sciences (ECO), Information Science and Engineering (ENG), Environment and Geosciences (ENV), Life Sciences (LIF), Mathematics (MAT) and Physics (PHY).

Evaluation of applications will be carried out by independent experts and in accordance with single ranked list for all CAR proposals.

Правило мобильности CAR: The fellowship candidate must not have resided or carried out the main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organisation located in EU/AC for more than 36 months in the 5 years immediately prior to the deadline for submission of proposals. Short stays, such as holidays, are not taken into account. This rule does not apply to the hosting of eligible researchers by IEIOs or international organisations established in MS or AC. However, the CAR candidate must not have spent more than 36 months in the 5 years immediately prior to the deadline of submission of proposals. All the CAR candidates must have a career break in research, i.e. they must not have been active in research for at least 12 months before the proposal submission deadline. One or several partner institutions representing academic or non-academic sectors and established in EU or AC may also participate in the project.

Project financing

EF covers costs of the researcher and host organisation.

Researcher unit costs:

- Living allowance: €4650/month (a country correction coefficient applies to the living allowance)¹
- Mobility allowance: €600/month
- Family allowance (if the researcher moves together with his/her family): €500/month

Institutional unit costs:

- Research, training and networking costs: €800/month
- Management and indirect costs: €650/month

Examples of calculation of grant amounts are given in the [GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS Marie Curie Actions Individual Fellowships](#).

In case the supervisor submits a number of similar proposals, the European Commission may ask him to choose one or more of them to withdraw². Proposals must be submitted by the supervisor on-line via [Electronic Submission Service](#)³ accessible from the call page on the [Participant Portal](#) and before the call deadline.

For additional information on the open MSCA IF-EF call, European and other Marie Skłodowska-Curie individual fellowships, please, see [Participant Portal](#); [H2020-MSCA-IF-2014 call page](#); [MSCA IF-EF topic description, conditions and documents](#); [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#) web-site and the [Newsletter of NCP "Mobility" № 4, 2013 on Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#).

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¹ [Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015, part 3, Table 3](#)

² [Horizon 2020 Grants Manual - Section on: proposal submission and evaluation](#) (Section III, 5.2: Multiple Proposals)

³ [Horizon 2020 Grants Manual - Section on: proposal submission and evaluation](#) (Section III, 5.2: Submitting your proposal)