## El proceso de evaluación

Jornada informativa – ERC Advanced Grant. Madrid, 24 de mayo de 2024







# **Excellence** is the sole criterion on the basis of which ERC frontier research grants are awarded



- The ground-breaking nature, ambition, and feasibility of the research project.
- The intellectual capacity, creativity, and commitment of the Principal
   Investigator(s), with a focus on the extent to which the Principal
   Investigator(s) has the required
   scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project.



# Research Project - Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

#### **Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project**

- To what extent does the proposed research address important challenges?
- To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art?

#### **Scientific Approach**

- To what extent is the outlined scientific approach feasible bearing in mind the ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research (based on the Extended Synopsis)?
- To what extent are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project (based on the research proposal)?
- To what extent are the proposed **timescales**, **resources** and **PI commitment** adequate and properly justified (based on the research proposal)?



## Principal Investigator - Intellectual capacity and creativity

- has the PI demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research?
- does the PI provide evidence of creative and original thinking?
- does the PI have the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project?



### A competitive Advanced Grant Principal Investigator is expected to be...

An active and established research leader with a track record of significant research achievements

#### Principal Investigators:

- list of achievements reflecting their track record.
- A short narrative describing scientific importance and the role played by the PI.

#### The peer review panels:

- unconventional research career paths
- particularly noteworthy contributions
- possible career breaks
- major life events



### **Proposal Structure**

The ERC full proposal = part B1 + part B2 + Part A\*

#### Part B1 - pdf

Cover Page and summary (1p)

Extended Synopsis (5p)

Curriculum vitae + Track-record (4p)

**Evaluated in Step** 

One deadline

2 steps evaluation process

#### Part B2 - pdf

(14p)

SoA & objectives

Methodology

**NOT** evaluated in Step 1 (only in Step 2)

#### Part A – online forms

**A1** General Information

**A2 Participants** 

A3 Budget: table + description (10.000c)

**A4 Ethics and security** 

**A5 Other questions** 

% Time commitment Excluded Reviewers (up to 3)

#### **Annexes**

HI support letter PhD certificate Ethics and security issues **Template Eligibility Extension Equipment Table** 



## The ERC proposal



- ✓ Important challenges
- Ambitious objectives, beyond SoA (novel concept and approach or development between or across disciplines)
- √ Feasibility of outlined scientific approach
- ✓ Appropriate methodology and working arrangements to achieve the goals
- ✓ Timescales,resources and PI commitment



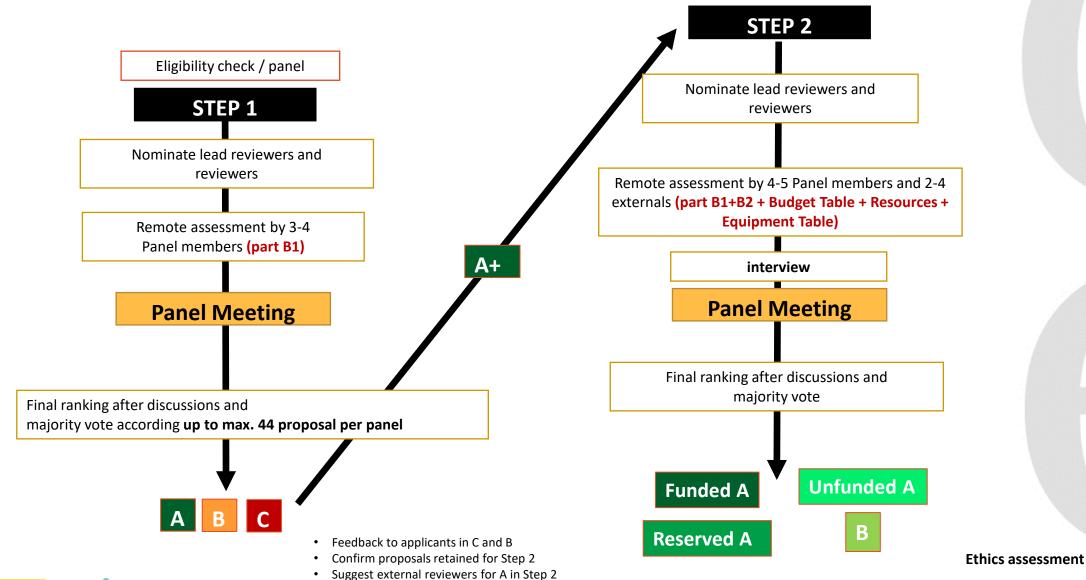








## ERC 2024 Evaluation process - Individual Grants

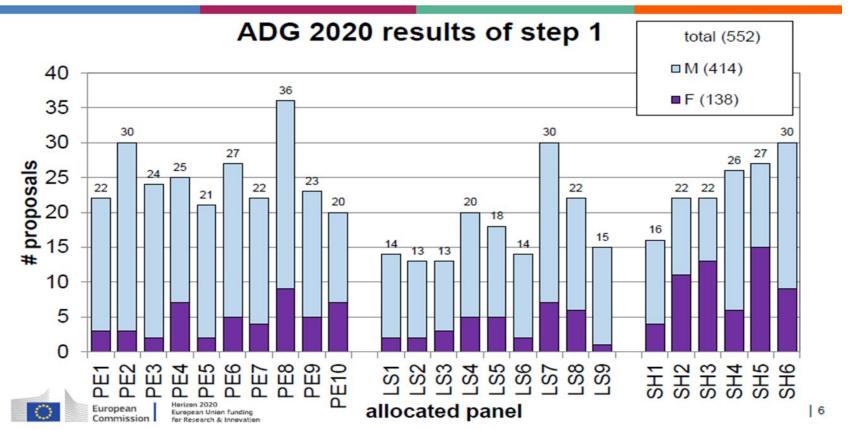




## ¿Cómo afectará la limitación de las 44 propuestas?

# ADG 2020 Results of Step 1 By panel and gender







### **Evaluation panels**

The peer review is carried out by 28 evaluation panels (ERC panels), covering all fields of science, engineering and scholarship

Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) 11 paneles

Life Sciences (LS)
9 paneles

Social Sciences and Humanities (SH)

8 paneles

When you submit, you need to indicate:

**Primary ERC Review Panel**: which will in principle evaluate the proposal

Secondary ERC Review Panel: if applicable

Please select, if applicable, the ERC keyword(s) that best characterise the subject of your proposal in order of priority.

ERC Keyword 1: As first keyword, choose one which is linked to the Primary Review Panel.

**ERC Keyword 2-4:** *if applicable, from any panel* 

Free keywords: FREE text, they guide (but do not determine) the allocation of proposals to reviewers



## **Evaluation: Panel Structure**

#### Physical Sciences & Engineering

- PE1 Mathematics
- PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter
- PE3 Condensed Matter Physics
- PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences
- PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials
- PE6 Computer Science and Informatics
- PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering
- PE8 Products and Processes Engineering
- PE9 Universe Sciences
- PE10 Earth System Science
- PE11 Materials Engineering

#### **PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering**

Electrical, electronic, communication, optical and systems engineering

PE7 1 Control engineering

PE7 2 Electrical engineering: power components and/or systems

PE7 3 Simulation engineering and modelling

PE7 4 (Micro- and nano-) systems engineering

PE7\_5 (Micro- and nano-) electronic, optoelectronic and photonic components

PE7\_6 Communication systems, wireless technology, high-frequency technology

PE7 7 Signal processing

PE7\_8 Networks, e.g. communication networks and nodes, Internet of Things, sensor networks,

networks of robots

PE7\_9 Man-machine interfaces

PE7\_10 Robotics

PE7 11 Components and systems for applications (in e.g. medicine, biology, environment)

PE7\_12 Electrical energy production, distribution, applications



#### **Evaluation: Panel Structure**

#### Life Sciences

- LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures and Functions
- LS2 Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems
- LS3 Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration
- LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing
- LS5 Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System
- LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy
- LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases
- LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution
- LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering

#### LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy

The immune system, related disorders and their mechanisms, biology of infectious agents and infection, biological basis of prevention and treatment of infectious diseases, innovative immunological tools and approaches, including therapies

LS6\_1 Innate immunity

LS6\_2 Adaptive immunity

LS6\_3 Regulation of the immune response

LS6\_4 Immune-related diseases

LS6\_5 Biology of pathogens (e.g. bacteria, viruses, parasites, fungi)

LS6\_6 Infectious diseases

LS6\_7 Mechanisms of infection

LS6\_8 Biological basis of prevention and treatment of infection

LS6 9 Antimicrobials, antimicrobial resistance

LS6\_10 Vaccine development

LS6 11 Innovative immunological tools and approaches, including therapies



#### **Evaluation: Panel Structure**

#### Social Sciences and Humanities

- SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations
- SH2 Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
- SH3 The Social World and Its Diversity
- SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity
- SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production
- SH6 The Study of the Human Past
- SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space
- SH8 Studies of Cultures and Arts

#### **SH8 Studies of Cultures and Arts**

Social anthropology, studies of cultures, studies of arts

SH8\_1 Kinship; diversity and identities, gender, interethnic relations

SH8\_2 Religious studies, ritual; symbolic representation

SH8\_3 Cultural studies and theory, cultural identities and memories, cultural heritage

SH8\_4 Museums, exhibitions, conservation and restoration

SH8\_5 History of art and of architecture

SH5\_6 Architecture, design, craft, creative industries

SH8\_7 Music and musicology; history of music

SH8\_8 Visual and performing arts, screen, arts-based research

SH8\_9 Digital approaches to anthropology, cultural studies and art



#### **Panel Members**

Each of the 28 panels is composed by 12-18 panel members.

More than 450 panel members per call and year!

The panel chair is known during the evaluation however the composition is made public once the results are published.

The full list of **panel members** and **remote referees** will be published once the call is resolved.

A panel may not include an expert in your discipline, they are semi-generalists, **but**! ERC can establish collaborations between panels...

The members of ERC panels alternate to allow panel members to apply to the ERC calls in alternate years.

#### **ERC-2024-Consolidator Grant. Panel Chairs Life Science**

- LS1 Prof. Bert Poolman
- LS2 Prof. Magnus Nordborg
- LS3 Prof. Florian Greten
- LS4 Prof. James Woodgett
- LS5 Prof. Michael Brecht
- LS6 Prof. Jacques Neefjes
- LS7 Prof. Marianne Van der Sande
- LS8 Prof. Arjen Biere
- LS9 Prof. Anne Meyer



#### **Panel Members**

#### LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases

- LS7\_1 Medical imaging for prevention, diagnosis and monitoring of diseases
- LS7\_2 Medical technologies and tools (including genetic tools and biomarkers) for prevention, diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of diseases
- LS7\_3 Nanomedicine
- LS7\_4 Regenerative medicine
- LS7\_5 Applied gene, cell and immune therapies
- LS7\_6 Other medical therapeutic interventions, including transplantation
- LS7\_7 Pharmacology and toxicology
- LS7\_8 Effectiveness of interventions, including resistance to therapies
- LS7\_9 Public health and epidemiology
- LS7\_10 Preventative and prognostic medicine
- LS7\_11 Environmental health, occupational medicine
- LS7\_12 Health care, including care for the ageing population
- LS7\_13 Palliative medicine
- LS7\_14 Digital medicine, e-medicine, medical applications of artificial intelligence
- LS7\_15 Medical ethics

## Panel members in the ERC Starting Grant 2023 peer review, appointed by the ERC Scientific Council.

- Liesbet Geris (Panel Chair)
  - Janne Backman
  - Ari Barzilai
  - Maria Blanco-Prieto
  - Maria Blettner
  - Teun Bousema
  - Micha Drukker
  - Alejandro Frangi
  - Alessia Gimelli
  - Václav Hořejší
  - Jorgen Kjems
  - Ian Law
  - Evi Lianidou
  - Craig Morgan
  - Annette Paschen
  - Mickael Tanter
  - Martine Vrijheid
  - Serena Zacchigna



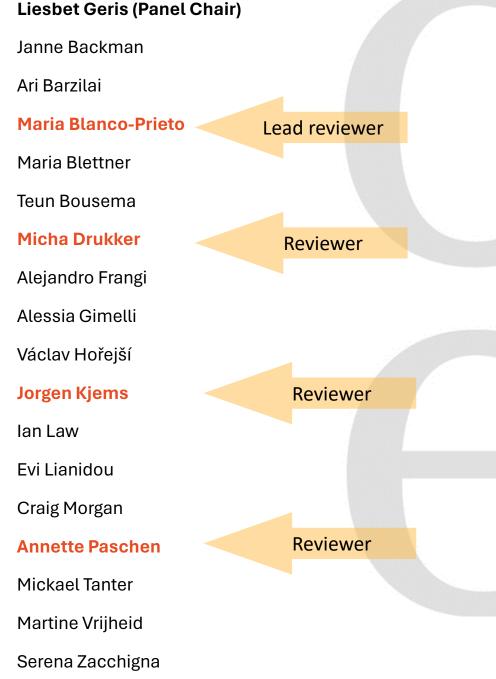
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Your proposal

- LS7 4 Regenerative medicine
- LS7\_5 Applied gene, cell and immune therapies
- LS7 6 Other medical therapeutic interventions, including transplantation
- LS7 7 Pharmacology and toxicology
- LS7\_8 Effectiveness of interventions, including resistance to therapies
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- LS7 15 Medical ethics







## **External experts**

The ERC independent external experts deliver individual reviews in a remote evaluation phase at Step 2, which constitute the starting point for the panels' discussion.

The ERC panels assess and score the proposals based on these individual reviews and on the panels' overall appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal.



## The ERC proposal



Extended Synopsis
Curriculum vitae + Track-record

**Intrigue (part B1)** 





SoA & objectives Methodology

**Convince (part B2)** 

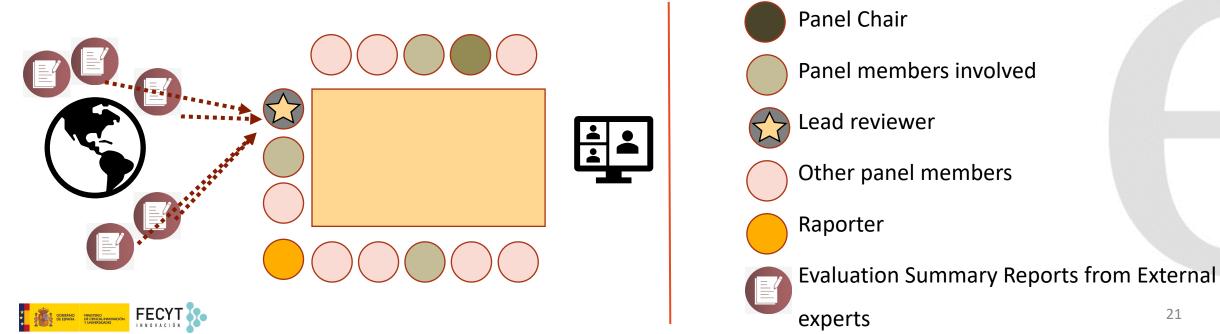
**Inspire** (Parts B1+B2+ interview)



#### Interview

- The **first part** of the interview will consist of a presentation of the research project by the Principal Investigator.
- The **remaining time** will be devoted to a questions and answers session. The PI may expect questions also related to the budget table, resources section and equipment table, including cost estimates, which are part of the application.
- The evaluation panels will review the requested lump sum contribution on the basis of the budget of those proposals recommended for funding and, if necessary, recommend adjustments.

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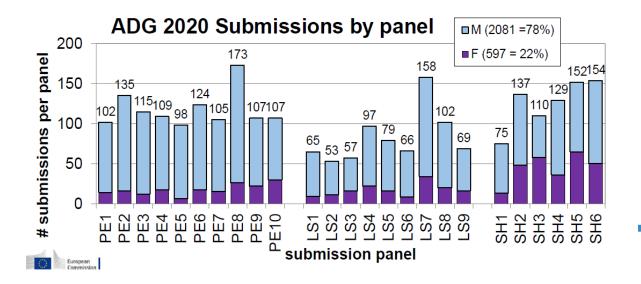


## **Good practice**

- Knowing the potential panelists (or similar profiles) is a good strategy for success.
- Think about who might read the proposal.
- Make them understand the impact on the scientific field.
- Tell them a story that will appeal to them (B1) and to convinces them
   (B2)



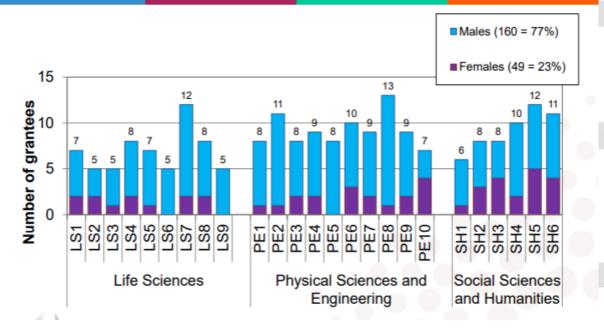
## ¿Cómo no elegir el un panel de evaluación?



An indicative budget is allocated to each panel in proportion to the budgetary demand of its assigned proposals. This important principle ensures comparable success rates between the individual panels regardless of how many proposals each panel evaluates









## Useful links

 Database of all funded projects by year and threshold/call (and much more)



 https://erc.europa.eu/projectsstatistics  Panel Members | ERC - European Union



https://erc.europa.eu/applygrant/panelmembers?IPGWtPdOmn=&page=85



## Gracias por su atención





