

# Programa ERC: Convocatoria Advanced Grant 2026

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**Webinar Advanced Grant 2026**

**12 de Junio de 2026**

# Housekeeping rules

- 1. Microphones will remain off until the end of presentations**
- 2. You can use the Q&A section to ask questions**
- 3. We will answer questions at the end**

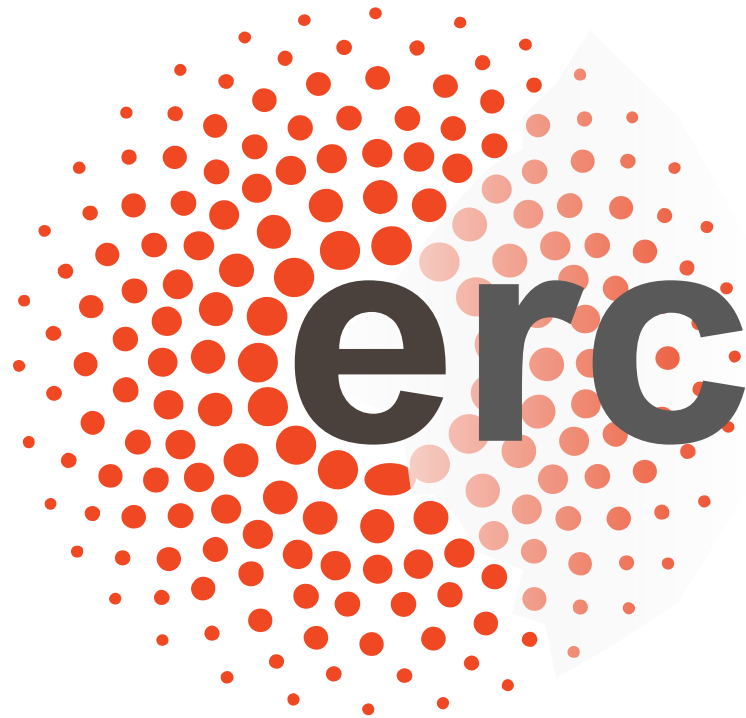
# Summary

- 1. ERC calls at a glance**
- 2. Key updates in the ERC Work Programmes 2026 (and 2027)**
- 3. How ERC evaluates**
- 4. Key documents**

## ERC calls “at a glance”

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# At a glance... European Research Council



- Pillar I of **Horizon Europe**: Excellent Science
- Open to researchers from **all over the world**
- Long-term **individual projects**
- **No thematic priorities**
- **Frontier research** in any scientific field
- Sole evaluation criterion: **scientific excellence** of the research proposal and the Principal Investigator, not ~~high risk-high gain~~  
✱
- **Evaluation by** internationally renowned **scientists**
- Offers researchers: **independence, recognition, and visibility**

# ERC grant schemes



## Starting Grants

Researchers (0-10 years after PhD)  
 up to €1.5 million for 5 years

**NEW**  
 WP 2027



## Consolidator Grants

Researchers (5-15 years after PhD)  
 up to €2 million for 5 years



## Advanced Grants

Researchers with track-record of significant  
 research achievements up to €2.5 million for 5 years



## Proof of Concept

bridging gap between research  
 - earliest stage of marketable innovation  
 lump sum €150 000 for ERC grantees



## Synergy Grants

2-4 Principal investigators  
 up to €10 million for 6 years  
 1 PI can be based outside  
 EU/Associated Countries



## Plus Grants

Principal investigators at all career stages with a  
 vision for transformative research  
 up to €7 million over 4-7 years

**NEW**  
 WP 2026

## Additional funding (+ new features as from WP2026)

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- **up to 1M €:** Applicants already based in an EU Member State or country associated to HE

Additional funding can be requested to cover, e.g. *purchase of major equipment, access to large facilities, other major experimental and field work costs, etc.*

- **up to 2M €:** Applicants currently based outside Europe (WP2026)

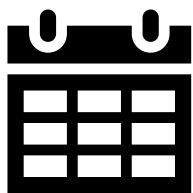
to facilitate the start-up/relocation of their laboratory/team to the EU/associated country.

# Key updates: Work Programmes 2026 (and 2027)

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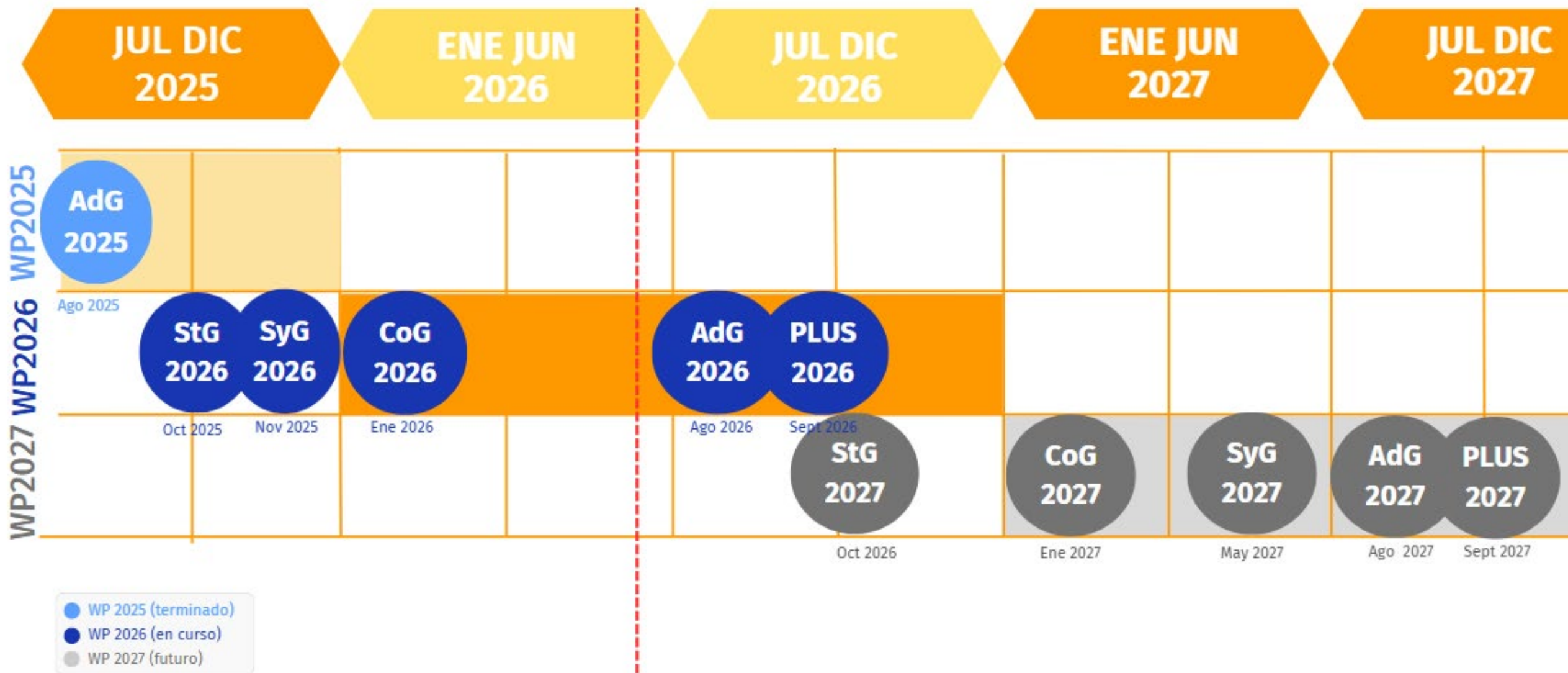
# Calendario de Convocatorias WP 2026

	Starting Grant Call	Consolidator Grant Call	Advanced Grant Call	Synergy Grant Call	ERC Plus Grant Call <sup>8</sup>
Call Identifier	ERC-2026-StG	ERC-2026-CoG	ERC-2026-AdG	ERC-2026-SyG	ERC-2026-PLUS
Opening Date	9 July 2025	25 September 2025	28 May 2026	10 July 2025	2 June 2026
Deadline	14 October 2025	13 January 2026	27 August 2026	5 November 2025	2 September 2026
Budget (EUR, m)	705	673	747	500	210
Estimated Number of Grants	450	328	294	49	30
Date to Inform Applicants – Step 1	28 April 2026	17 July 2026	29 January 2027	13 April 2026	16 February 2027
Date to Inform Applicants – Step 2	25 August 2026	11 December 2026	11 June 2027	14 August 2026	15 June 2027
Date to Inform Applicants – Step 3	-	-	-	27 October 2026	-
Grant Agreement Signature Date	22 December 2026	12 April 2027	16 November 2027	24 March 2027	13 October 2027



Annual periodicity  
by call with a  
similar closing  
calendar

## Fechas de cierre de convocatorias ERC por Work Programme



## Novelties WP 2026 – New Proposal Structure

- New Proposal Structure:

Scientific Proposal Part I ( $\leq$  five pages)

Scientific Proposal Part II ( $\leq$  seven pages/ten for Synergy Grant)

- CV and Track Record ( $\leq$  four pages)
- Resources and Time Commitment: up to two pages ( $>$ two pages for Synergy Grant)
- Annex of Running Grants/Grant Applications in Progress (does not count toward page limit)



# Structure of the proposal (StG, CoG and AdG)

One deadline | 2 steps evaluation process

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

## Part B1 - pdf

Cover Page and summary  
(1p)

Part I of the Scientific  
Proposal (5p)

Curriculum vitae +  
Track-record (4p)

***Evaluated in Step 1  
(In ERC Plus +SoV)***

## Part B2 - pdf

Part II of the Scientific  
Proposal **(7p)**

***Appendix:*** funding ID

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

## Part A – online forms

**A1 General Information**

**A2 Participants**

**A3 Budget: table + description (Section C.  
Resources)**

**A4 Ethics and security**

**A5 Other questions**

% Time commitment

Excluded Reviewers (up to 3)

## Annexes

HI support letter

Ethics and security issues

PhD certificate (StG, CoG)

Eligibility Extension Request (StG, CoG)

# ERC Novelties WP 2027-onwards



What's changing in ERC eligibility for 2027? Maria Leptin explains

erc European Research Council  
9,43 K suscriptores



42



Compartir



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08LtPWbbjmo>

**Max 1 StG & 1  
CoG per  
researcher**



**El Consejo Europeo de Investigación (ERC) anuncia cambios significativos en sus programas de trabajo para 2026 y 2027**

02 de Junio de 2025

# WP2027: recent updates and key messages

## 16 April 2026

Applications surge  
→ pressure on evaluation system  
→ **strict resubmission restrictions proposed**



## 29 April 2026

After community feedback  
→ **restrictions reversed**  
→ rules remain unchanged



## Looking ahead

**Still under discussion**  
→ need for sustainable evaluation system  
→ **new measures likely**



*Restrictions were softened, but pressure remains ... further changes are likely  
Timing matters more than ever*

# WP 2026 eligibility and restrictions

- » **PI Minimum Percentage of Working Time to be Spent on the ERC Project: Min. 30% (AdG + SyG)**
- » **Minimum Percentage of PI Working Time to be Spent in an EU Member State or Associated Country: 50% of PI working time in an EU Member State or Associated Country**

# WP 2026 eligibility and restrictions



**Grant Holding Limitations** A researcher can participate as a Principal Investigator (PI) in only one ERC main frontier research grant at any given time.



**Eligibility from Previous Success** Applicants selected for funding under WP 2024/2025 cannot apply for WP 2026. Actual Grantees cannot submit proposals in WP 2026 unless their current project ends in less than two years following the call deadline.



**Panel Service Restrictions** PIs serving as panel members for WP 2024 or 2026 cannot apply to the same grant type in WP 2026. Advanced Grant panelists are also barred from the ERC Plus call.



**Submission Rule** Multiple proposals may be submitted to different main frontier calls within the same Work Programme, but only the first eligible proposal will be evaluated.

# WP 2026 eligibility and restrictions

Application under Previous ERC Work Programme Calls and Outcome of Evaluation <sup>47</sup>		Applicants are Ineligible for the Following Calls under Work Programme 2026
Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, or Synergy Grant 2024 and 2025	Rejected on the grounds of a breach of research integrity <sup>48</sup>	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, ERC Plus, and Synergy Grant 2026
Starting, Consolidator, or Advanced Grant 2024	C at Step 1	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, and ERC Plus Grant 2026
Starting, Consolidator, or Advanced Grant 2025	B or C at Step 1	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, and ERC Plus Grant 2026
Synergy Grant 2024	C at Step 1	Synergy Grant 2026
Synergy Grant 2025	B or C at Step 1	Synergy Grant 2026

**DRAFT**

## WP2027 New application restrictions

NEW

» **One proposal at a time:** Applicants may have only one proposal under evaluation at any given time (except Proof of Concept).

NEW

» **Starting & Consolidator limits:** No applicant may hold a Starting or Consolidator Grant more than once.

NEW

» **Restriction for Synergy 2027:** Applicants with eligible Advanced or Plus Grant 2026 proposals may not apply to Synergy Grant 2027.

# New resubmission restrictions (updated 02/06/2026)

**DRAFT**

*Table 6: Resubmission Restrictions*

Application under Previous ERC Work Programme Calls and Outcome of Evaluation <sup>49</sup>		Applicants are Ineligible for the Following Calls under Work Programme 2027
Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, or Synergy Grant 2025	Rejected on the grounds of a breach of research integrity <sup>50</sup>	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, ERC Plus, and Synergy Grant 2027
Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, ERC Plus, or Synergy Grant 2026	Rejected on the grounds of a breach of research integrity <sup>51</sup>	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, ERC Plus, and Synergy Grant 2027
Starting, Consolidator, or Advanced Grant 2025	C at Step 1	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, ERC Plus, and Synergy Grant 2027
Starting or Consolidator Grant 2026	B or C at Step 1	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, ERC Plus, and Synergy Grant 2027
Advanced Grant 2026	B or C at Step 1	Starting, Consolidator, Advanced, and ERC Plus Grant 2027
Synergy Grant 2025	C at Step 1	Synergy Grant 2027
Synergy Grant 2026	B or C at Step 1	Synergy Grant 2027
ERC Plus Grant 2026	Not retained at Step 1	ERC Plus Grant 2027

# How ERC evaluates

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- Understanding the panel logic

# Evaluation: Principle

Changes for 2026



## Excellence

is the sole evaluation criterion

### Excellence of the Research Project

- Ground breaking nature
- Ambition

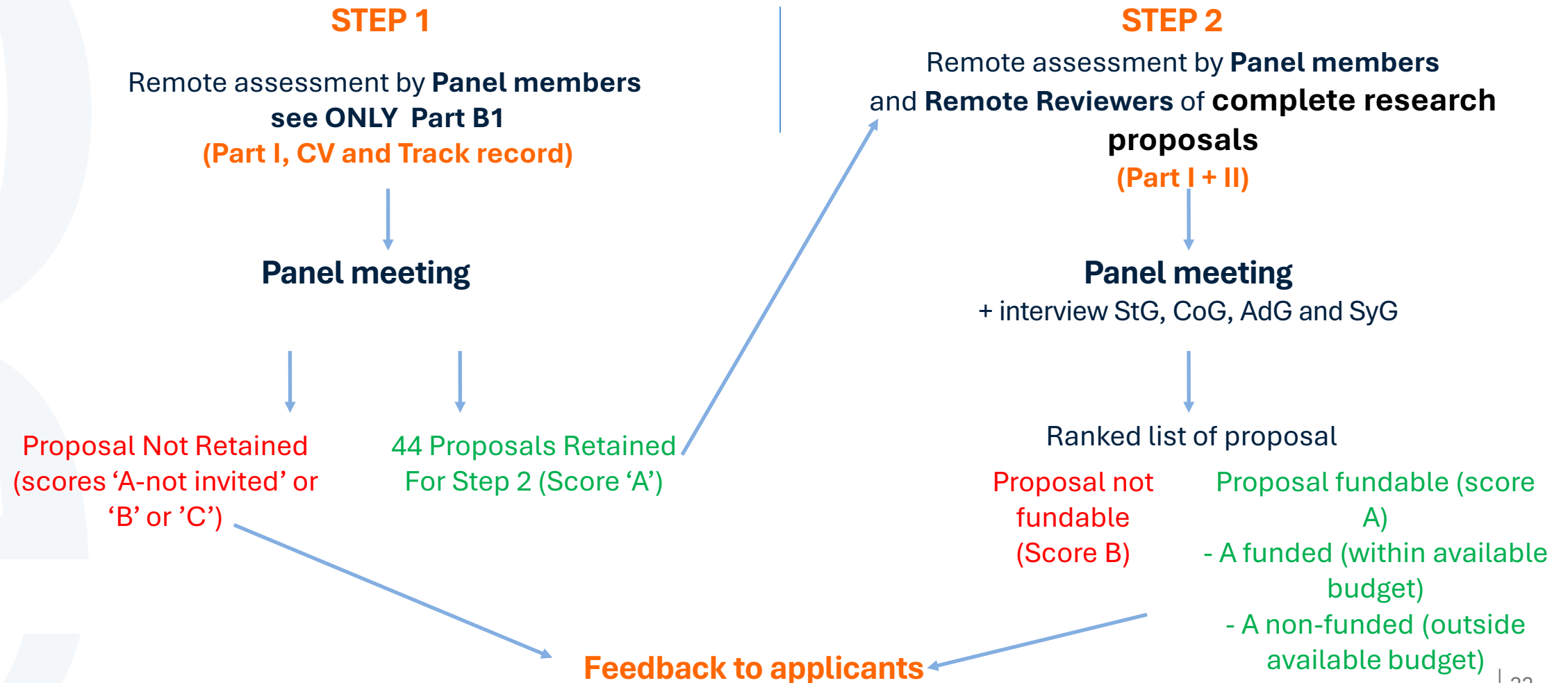
### Excellence of the Principal Investigator

- Intellectual capacity
- Creativity

*Since 2024 calls – panels will primarily evaluate the excellence of the project*

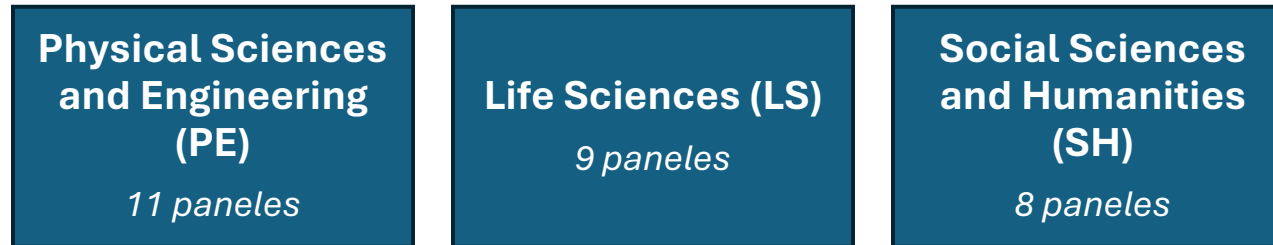
# Evaluation process (StG, CoG and AdG)

For individuals calls: a single submission but a two-step evaluation



# Evaluation panels

**28 panels divided into 3 domains.** Each panel covers a number of research topics, detailed with their [descriptors](#).



**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
- SH8\_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

# Evaluation - Panel Structure – Examples



*AI-driven modelling of climate-driven ecosystem shifts in marine environments*

**Primary Panel:** LS8 – Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution

**Secondary Panel:** PE6 – Computer Science and Informatics

- LS8\_5 – Environmental change, climate change
- LS8\_4 – Population dynamics
- PE6\_9 – Machine learning
- LS8\_15 – Theoretical modelling

**Free keywords:** marine ecosystems, climate change, AI modelling, biodiversity

*Dynamics of political polarisation and public discourse in European democracies*

**Primary Panel:** SH2 – Institutions, Governance and Legal System

- SH2\_1 – Political systems, governance
- SH2\_9 – Digital approaches to political science
- SH3\_10 – Communication, networks, media
- SH3\_11 – Digital social research

**Free keywords:** political discourse, polarisation, social media, public opinion

*Advanced catalytic materials for efficient hydrogen production under mild conditions*

**Primary Panel:** PE5 – Synthetic Chemistry and Materials

- PE5\_6 – New materials (hybrids, nanoparticles)
- PE5\_13 – Homogeneous catalysis
- PE4\_12 – Chemical reactions: mechanisms, kinetics
- PE8\_6 – Energy processes engineering

**Free keywords:** hydrogen production, catalysis, energy, sustainable chemistry



## Panel members

Panel members play a vital role in the ERC's evaluation of grant proposals. They are top scientists and scholars coming from all over the world to help ERC select the best project proposals. The ERC's peer review ensures a comprehensive and robust assessment of research proposals. It is organised in three research domains and, currently, in 28 panels.

This webpage provides information about the panel members who took part in the completed ERC grant competitions, and about panel chairs, both past and currently serving.

Note to applicants:

This information is given for reasons of transparency. **Applicants, potential applicants, or potential host institutions must not contact reviewers.** If they do so, the applications may be rejected on the grounds of a breach of research integrity

Panel member name

Funding schemes

Select

- Advanced Grant (AdG)
- Consolidator Grants (CoG)
- Proof of Concept (PoC)
- Starting Grant (StG)
- Synergy Grant (SyG)

Years

Select

Review panels

(LS) Life Sciences

(SH) Social Sciences & Humanities

(SyG) Synergy Grants

Apply

Reset

# Evaluation: Panel Structure

Review panel	Funding schemes	Review panel member name	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
PE1	CoG	Nils Lid Hjort									
PE1	CoG	Helge Holden									
PE1	CoG	Olga Holtz									
PE1	CoG	Cyril Houdayer									
PE1	CoG	Arieh Iserles									
PE1	CoG	Vojkan Jaksic									
PE1	CoG	Juhani Karhumäki									
PE1	CoG	Juliette Kennedy									
PE1	CoG	Ulrich Kohlenbach									



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



# Key documents

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# ERC webpage





The screenshot shows the ERC homepage navigation menu with the following items: Home, Apply for a grant, Manage your project, Projects & statistics, News & events, Support, and About the ERC. The 'Apply for a grant' menu is expanded, listing: Starting Grant, Consolidator Grant, Advanced Grant, Proof of Concept, Synergy Grant, ERC Plus Grant, For Non-European Researchers, Panel members, Independent observers, and Additional. Below the menu, the 'Magazine' section features an article titled 'From war damage to art ...' dated Jan 2026. The 'Science stories' section displays a collage of images including a portrait of a man, a blue particle-like image, a microscope, and a grid pattern.





<https://erc.europa.eu/homepage>


- 


**STARTING YOUR ERC APPLICATION**  
How can you get started with your ERC proposal?  
European Research Council · 6,1 K visualizaciones · hace 1 mes
- 

**WRITING YOUR ERC PROPOSAL**  
How can you write your ERC proposal?  
European Research Council · 7,1 K visualizaciones · hace 1 mes
- 

**EVALUATING YOUR ERC PROPOSAL**  
How do we evaluate your ERC proposal?  
European Research Council · 2,6 K visualizaciones · hace 1 mes
- 

**ERC SYNERGY GRANTS EXPLAINED**  
What do you need to know about the ERC Synergy Grants?  
European Research Council · 2,1 K visualizaciones · hace 1 mes
- 

**PREPARING FOR YOUR ERC INTERVIEW**  
How can you best prepare for your ERC interview?  
European Research Council · 1,5 K visualizaciones · hace 1 mes
- 

**ETHICS AND THE ERC PROPOSAL**  
Why care about ethics in your ERC proposal?  
European Research Council · 951 visualizaciones · hace 1 mes
- 

**HOW TO COMMUNICATE ON YOUR SCIENCE PROJECT**  
How to communicate on your ERC science project?  
European Research Council · 2,9 K visualizaciones · hace 1 año



# Work Programme 2026

It is established by the ERC Scientific Council and subsequently adopted by the European Commission (now amended with ERC Plus grant information)

EN  
ANNEX  
*European Commission Decision C(2025) 5000*

## ERC Work Programme 2026



**European Research Council**  
Established by the European Commission

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**WP2027 expected to be published by July 2026**

# Documentos Esenciales



Information for Applicants



Guide for Peer Reviewers (2025, 2026 to be published soon)

# Gracias

[erc@fecyt.es](mailto:erc@fecyt.es)