

Webinar Ikerbasque

European Research Council
Convocatorias WP 2024 & 2025

Madrid, 08 de mayo de 2024



GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO
DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN
Y UNIVERSIDADES



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Índice

- **ERC mission and funding schemes**
- **Novelties: recent changes to the evaluation of research proposals**
- **Evaluation procedure**
- **Resources**



ERC Mission and funding schemes

EE

What is European Research Council mission?

The ERC, **set up by the European Union in 2007**, is the premier European funding organisation for excellent frontier research.

The ERC is based on a simple idea:
ERC supports the **best researchers** to work in Europe on their **best ideas**.

The sole criterion for selection is **scientific excellence**.



- It funds **creative researchers** of **any nationality and age**, to run projects based across **Europe**.
- support **investigator-driven frontier research** across **all fields**, based on scientific excellence.
- **Individual, innovative, ambitious, non-incremental** projects
- ~~(High risk/high gain)~~ frontier research in any scientific field
- Evaluation by scientists of **high international profile**
- Offers research staff **independence, recognition and visibility**

What is European Research Council?

➔ **Funding: Horizon Europe budget (2021-2027) Pilar I**



European Research Council

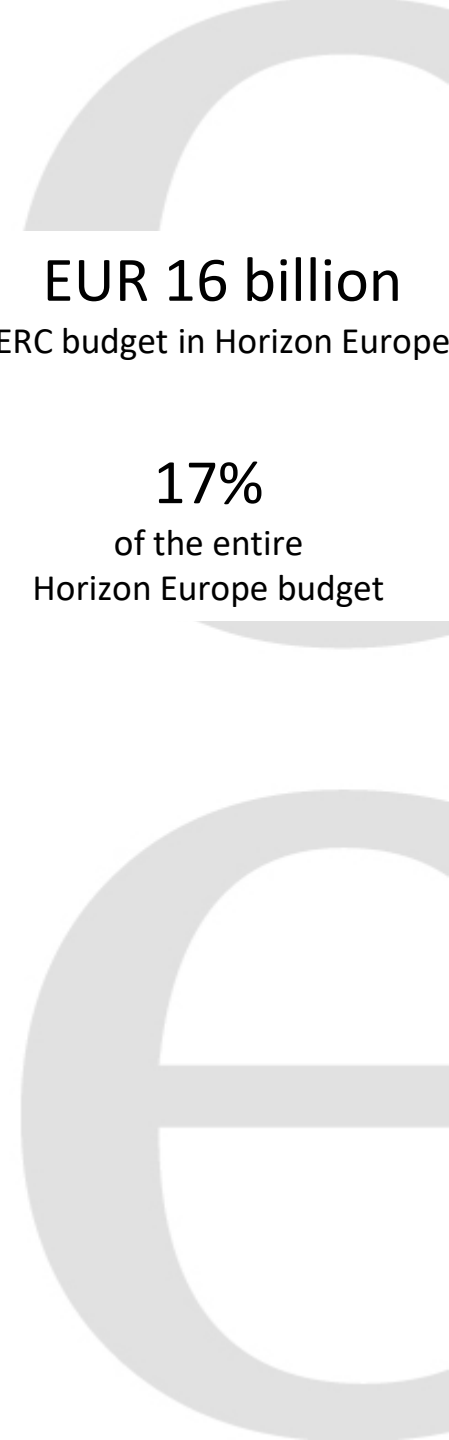
Established by the European Commission

EUR 16 billion
ERC budget in Horizon Europe

17%
of the entire
Horizon Europe budget

➔ **The Scientific Council (ScC)** <https://erc.europa.eu/about-erc/erc-president-and-scientific-council>

➔ **The ERC Executive Agency (ERCEA)** <https://erc.europa.eu/about-erc/erc-executive-agency-ercea>



ERC The Scientific Council

The Scientific Council is composed of 22 eminent scientists and scholars.

The members are appointed by the EC, on the recommendations of an independent Identification Committee.

The term of office of the members of the Scientific Council is limited to 4 years, renewable once.

The role of the ERC Scientific Council is to:

- Decide on a scientific strategy
- Monitor and control quality and performance
- Establish a communication strategy

[Maria Leptin](#) is the President of the ERC since 1 November 2021, former Director of EMBO (European Molecular Biology Organization)

ERC Scientific Council

Life Sciences



Social Sciences and Humanities



Physical Sciences and Engineering



March 2024

ERC main grant Schemes + proof of concept

STARTING GRANTS

Grants up to **1.5€ million** for 5Y.

For excellent researchers at the career stage at which they are starting their own independent research team or programme.

2 to 7 years experience **after PhD**

PI Commitment: >50%

Should have already shown **evidence of the potential for research independence**, for example by having produced at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor.

StG 2025: Successful defence of PhD between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022 (inclusive)

CONSOLIDATOR GRANTS

Grants up to **2€ million** for 5Y.

For excellent researchers at the career stage at which they may still be consolidating their own independent research team or programme.

7 to 12 years experience **after PhD**

PI Commitment: >40%

Should have already shown evidence of research independence.

COG 2025: Successful defence of PhD between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2017 (inclusive)

ADVANCED GRANTS

Grants up to **2.5€ million** for 5Y

For already **established research leaders** with a recognised track record of research achievement.

PI Commitment: >30%

Expected to be an active researcher and to have a track record of significant research achievements.

ADG 2024 & 2025: no PhD needed

SYNERGY GRANTS

Grants up to **10€ million** for 6Y

To address ambitious research questions that can only be answered by the coordinated work of a **small group of 2-4 principal Investigators**.

PI Commitment: >30%

Competitive track records as appropriate to their career stage.

ERC main grant Schemes + proof of concept

STARTING GRANTS

CONSOLIDATOR GRANTS

ADVANCED GRANTS

SYNERGY GRANTS

- ❖ **Minimum 50% of PI working time in an EU Member State or Associated Country**
- ❖ **Additional funding up to 1M€ (4M€ SyG)** when these are necessary to carry out the proposed work:
 - "start-up" costs for PIs moving to the EU or an AC from elsewhere as a consequence of receiving the ERC grant and/or
 - the purchase of major equipment and/or
 - access to large facilities and/or
 - other major experimental and field work costs, excluding personnel costs.
- ❖ **Extensions eligibility window:** Maternity (18M), Paternity, Long-term illness or national service, Clinical training, Asylum seeker, [New extensions in draft WP2025](#)
Disability: Extension corresponding to the reduced amount of working time (including leave taken) and/or the degree of disability as documented by the PI, before the call deadline, and which occurred after the date of the successful defence of their first PhD degree.
Major disasters: extension by the documented time of a PI's inability to work before the call deadline due to a major disaster, which occurred after the date of the successful defence of their first PhD degree. Major disasters include large-scale geological (e.g., earthquakes), meteorological (e.g., floods) or human-caused (e.g., armed conflicts) events that cause loss of life or property.

• NEW

ERC main grant Schemes + proof of concept

STARTING GRANTS

CONSOLIDATOR GRANTS

ADVANCED GRANTS

SYNERGY GRANTS

PROOF OF CONCEPT

Lump Sum Grant of **150.000€** for 18 months

For existing ERC grant holders to bring their research **ideas closer to market/society**

- ≤ 3 PoC per StG, CoG and AdG.
- ≤ 6 PoC per Synergy Grant
- PoC Grants may run in parallel

EIC Transition

Mature a novel technology and develop a business case to bring it to market

European
Innovation
Council



ERC Guides – 3 essential documents

ERC Work Programme

1 / calls calendar



ERC Work Programme 2025
Expected by end June 2024

Information for Applicants

- IfA to StG & CoG calls
- IfA to AdG call
- IfA to SyG call
- IfA to PoC call



Guide for Peer Reviewers

- GfPR StG & CoG calls
- GfPR AdG call
- GfPR SyG call
- GfPR PoC call



ERC WP 2024 Calendar

Indicative summary of calls from the 2024 budget¹⁹

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant
Call identifier	ERC-2024-StG	ERC-2024-CoG	ERC-2024-AdG	ERC-2024-SyG
Call opens	11 July 2023	12 September 2023	29 May 2024	12 July 2023
Call deadline	24 October 2023	12 December 2023	29 August 2024	8 November 2023
Budget million EUR ²⁰ (estimated number of grants)	601 (387)	584 (291)	578 (237)	400 (39)
Planned dates to inform applicants after each step	10 May 2024 23 August 2024	21 June 2024 13 December 2024	31 January 2025 13 June 2025	3 May 2024 30 August 2024 4 November 2024
Indicative date for signature of grant agreements	21 December 2024	12 April 2025	18 November 2025	24 March 2025

1st step

2nd
&
3rd steps

Total Budget
2731,7M€

draft ERC WP 2025 Calendar

Annual periodicity by call with a similar closing calendar

Indicative summary of calls from the 2025 budget^{19,20}

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant
Call identifier	ERC-2025-StG	ERC-2025-CoG	ERC-2025-AdG	ERC-2025-SyG
Call opens	10 July 2024	26 September 2024	22 May 2025	11 July 2024
Call deadline	15 October 2024	14 January 2025	28 August 2025	6 November 2024

- ERC Work Programme 2025 **approved by the Scientific Council** in February 2024
- EU to adopt** the ERC WP 2025 end of June 2024
- Provisional Total Budget = 2700M€

Amendment to the WP 2024 – in Progress

Additional budget from the UK Association to Horizon Europe

EUR 568 million for main frontier research grants



Recent changes to the evaluation of research proposals

EE

Recent changes on Research Assessment (Horizon Europe)

ERC Working Group on Open Science

In July 2021 , the ERC endorsed the **San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)**



WP 2022

Revision of the funding and evaluation strategy in the light of the principles of the San Francisco Declaration.

- **Journal Impact Factor** will no longer be accepted among the relevant bibliometric indicators that can be included as part of the publication track-record.
- Other **types of achievements** can be included in this list, if they are relevant to the field of knowledge and the proposal.
- Within the existing proposal template and respecting page limits, the candidates may provide a **narrative description of the scientific significance of their research outputs** and **the role** played in them.

<https://sfdora.org/resource/european-research-council-erc/>

Recent changes on Research Assessment (Horizon Europe)

ERC Working Group on Open Science

ERA Research Agenda 2022-2024. Action 3: Advance towards the reform of the Assessment System for research, researchers and institutions to improve their quality, performance and impact

In early **2023** signed the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment (CoARA)



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment: CoARA

On the short and medium term the changes are expected to:

- Promote qualitative judgement with peer-review, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators;
- Consider the value and impact of a diversity of research outputs;
- Rewards the diversity of tasks of researchers, and supports team science;
- Incentivize open collaboration and early knowledge and data sharing

On the long term, the reform of the assessment system is expected to trigger higher quality, more performant and more impactful research and to contribute to more attractive research careers. It would better value knowledge and data sharing and open collaboration including societal engagement leading to increased trust in the research and innovation system and its outputs.

https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2021-11/ec_rtd_era-policy-agenda-2021.pdf

<https://coara.eu/>

ERC WP 2024 + 2025 – main novelties

Evaluation of ERC grant proposals

No prescriptive Principal Investigator profiles

CV and track record merged in a new template (4 pages)

- Include up to 10 research outputs

Evaluation primarily focused on the research project. Streamlined evaluation questions:

- Ground-breaking
- Ambition
- Feasibility

Lump sums implementation for ERC-Advanced Grant call

A lump sum contribution for the entirety of the project defined upfront

Payment based on completion of activities and not on successful outcome

Additional funding and portability available

Panel re-organization

New Panel – **SH8** – Studies of Cultures and Arts

Reorganization **LS3** (Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration) and **LS5** (Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System)

Reorganization **PE6** (Theoretical and experimental computer science, information processing, intelligent systems).

Evaluation

No budget multiplier in StG, CoG, AdG: up to 44 proposals per panel can pass to Step 2

New score in step 1: A-score at Step 1 (StG, CoG, AdG, SyG): ‘A not invited’ – high quality proposals exceeding the threshold for Step 2, but not subject to resubmission restrictions

[Synergy Grant 2025](#)



Evaluation procedure

Main grants: StG, CoG, AdG

- Proposal structure
- Evaluation process and criteria

EE

ERC 2024 + 2025 – individual Schemes - Structure of the proposal

One deadline | 2 steps evaluation process

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)

• NEW

Evaluated in Step 1

Part B2 - pdf

(14p)

Sa: SoA & objectives

Sb: Methodology

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

Part A – online forms

A1 General Information

A2 Participants

A3 Budget*

table + description (8000c)

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

• NEW

ERC 2024 + 2025 – Part B1 - CV & track record (4 pages)

New **CV and Track Record template** (4 pages)

Personal details: education, key qualifications, current position(s) and relevant previous positions.

Research achievements (<=10) a list of up to 10 research outputs:

- demonstrating advancement in the field
- emphasis on more recent achievements
- short narrative on significance of achievements

Peer recognition: a list of selected examples of significant prizes, fellowships, academy membership, etc.

Additional information:

- career breaks, diverse career paths, life events
- other contributions to research community



The Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) COARA The Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment

A short explanation of the significance of the selected outputs, the role of the applicant in producing each of them, and how they demonstrate the applicant's capacity to successfully carry out their proposed project may be included, as well as a short explanation of the importance of the listed examples of significant peer recognition.

The applicant may also include relevant information on, for example, **career breaks, unusual career paths**, as well as any particularly noteworthy **contributions to the research community**. These will not in themselves be evaluated but are important to provide context to the evaluation panels when assessing the principal investigator's research achievements and peer recognition in relation to their career stage.

The ERC proposal

Intrigue (part B1)

Convince (part B2)


Inspire (Parts B1+B2+ interview)



- 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 + 2025 - Evaluation panels

There are in total **28 panels**, divided between three main domains:

- Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) with 11 panels
- Life Sciences (LS) with 9 panels
- Social Sciences and Humanities (SH) with 8 panels 



Each panel covers a given breath of research topics, further detailed with its descriptors

10–15 subfields/descriptors per panel

When you submit, you need to indicate:

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

Secondary ERC Review Panel: *if applicable*

ERC Keyword 1: must be 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

SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space

Keywords or descriptors

- SH7_1 Human, economic and social geography
- SH7_2 Migration
- SH7_3 Population dynamics: households, family and fertility
- SH7_4 Social aspects of health, ageing and society
- SH7_5 Sustainability sciences, environment and resources
- SH7_6 Environmental and climate change, societal impact and policy
- SH7_7 Cities; urban, regional and rural studies
- SH7_8 Land use and planning
- SH7_9 Energy, transportation and mobility
- SH7_10 GIS, spatial analysis; big data in geographical studies

ERC Panel Structure 2024 & 2025

Physical Sciences & Engineering

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



**Open to any field
of research**

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

Social Sciences and Humanities

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



How to choose submission panel?

You are presenting a proposal involving (potentially) an important scientific advance

- **In which field?**
- **Which panel is covering that field?**

This is the panel which will have the evaluators best suited to appreciate the work you propose

- **Which descriptor(s) best cover it?**

Note that the panel should correspond to the first descriptor (or vice-versa)

Do not indicate a secondary panel or descriptors for: **an instrument or technique *used*** (and not developed)

Choose descriptors significant to the **advances** your proposal will bring

By default, the proposal is allocated to the panel indicated at submission

- **Your choice** is respected as much as possible but...
- The panel chair can decide to **transfer** a proposal (with the agreement of the receiving panel chair)
- Once transferred, it is treated **the same** as the other proposals in the (new) panel

ERC Evaluation panels + Panel Members

PE3 Condensed Matter Physics Structure, electronic properties, fluids, nanosciences, biological physics

PE3_1 Structure of solids, material growth and characterisation

PE3_2 Mechanical and acoustical properties of condensed matter, lattice dynamics

PE3_3 Transport properties of condensed matter

PE3_4 Electronic properties of materials, surfaces, interfaces, nanostructures

PE3_5 Physical properties of semiconductors and insulators

PE3_6 Macroscopic quantum phenomena, e.g. superconductivity, superfluidity, quantum Hall effect

PE3_7 Spintronics

PE3_8 Magnetism and strongly correlated systems

PE3_9 Condensed matter – beam interactions (photons, electrons, etc.)

PE3_10 Nanophysics, e.g. nanoelectronics, nanophotonics, nanomagnetism, nanoelectromechanics

PE3_11 Mesoscopic quantum physics and solid-state quantum

PE3_12 Molecular electronics

PE3_13 Structure and dynamics of disordered systems, e.g. soft matter (gels, colloids, liquid crystals), granular matter, liquids, glasses, defects
PE3_14 Fluid dynamics (physics)

PE3_15 Statistical physics: phase transitions, condensed matter systems, models of complex systems, interdisciplinary applications

PE3_16 Physics of biological systems

PE3

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



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Search the website

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Panel member name

Review panels

(LS) Life Sciences

- ☐ LS1 ☐ LS2

☐ LS3 ☐ LS4

☐ LS5 ☐ LS6

☐ LS7 ☐ LS8

☐ LS9

(PE) Physical Sciences & Engineering

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PE1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | PE2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PE3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | PE4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PE5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | PE6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PE7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | PE8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PE9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | PE10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PE11 | | |

(SH) Social Sciences & Humanities

- ☐ SH1 ☐ SH2

☐ SH3 ☐ SH4

☐ SH5 ☐ SH6

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PE3_16 Physics of biological systems

(Principal Investigator)

PE3. Panel members in the **ERC Starting Grant 2022** peer review, appointed by the ERC Scientific Council.

Zoe Barber

Silke Biermann

Stefano Bonetti

Silke Christiansen

Didier Felbacq

Suzanne Fielding ← (Lead Reviewer) + Panel Chair

Yuval Garini

Christian Glattli

Erik Luijten

Ingrid Mertig

Vit Novak

George Sawatzky

Miriam Serena Vitiello

Gijs Wuite

Johannes Zaanen

ERC Evaluation panels + Panel Members

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Stefano Bonetti →

Silke Christiansen

Didier Felbacq

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Yuval Garini

Christian Glattli

Erik Luijten

Ingrid Mertig

Vit Novak

George Sawatzky →

Miriam Serena Vitiello

Gijs Wuite →

Johannes Zaanen

External referees

Proposes 10 external referees for the second step of the evaluation



+ 10



+ 10



+ 10



.....

Experts identification tool: Propy

Experts identification tool: Propy The ERCEA informed the ScC members about Propy, the support tool for the identification of potential panel members and remote referees for the evaluation of proposals

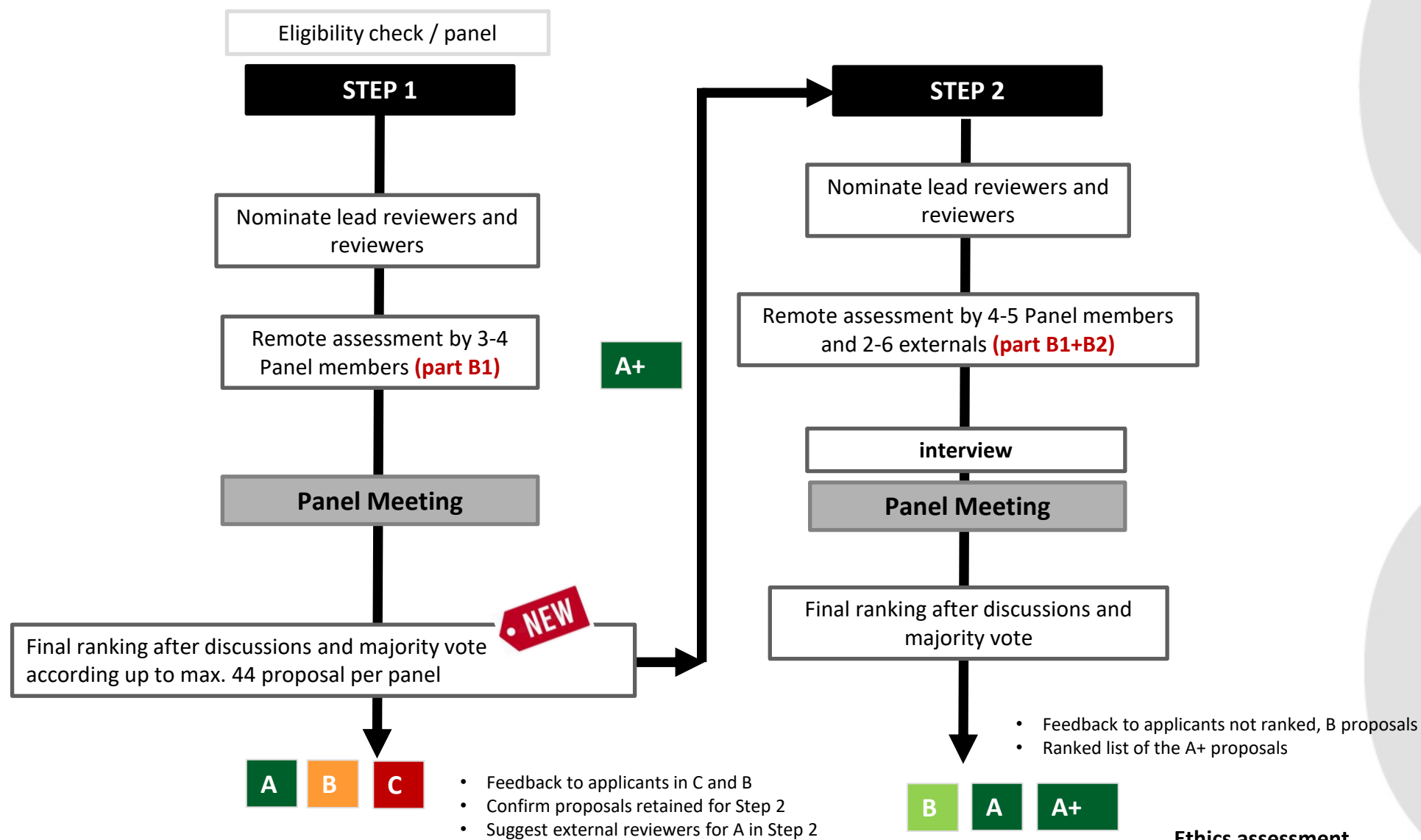
<https://www.propy.science/referee-finder/>

ERC **Evaluation panels** + **Panel Members**

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



ERC Evaluation process - individual Grants



The interview

Presentation (3-10 min.) + Question (15-25min) = Total 30min

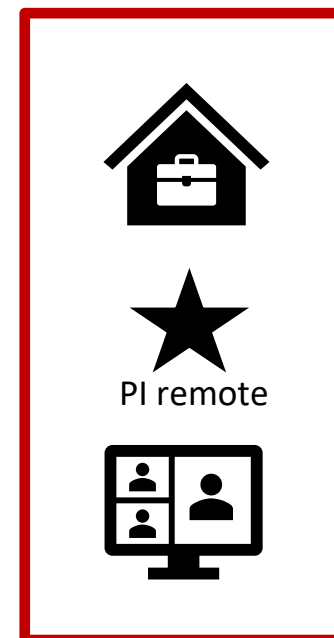
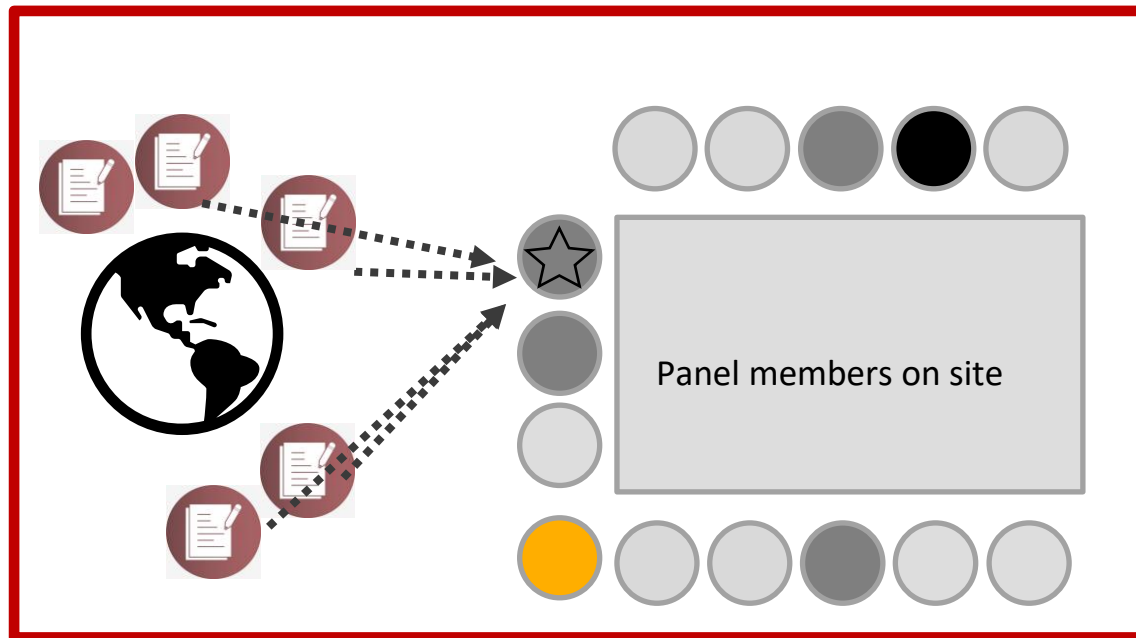
Panel members: Top Science Experts, but possibly no expert in your field

Reports from Top Science Experts in your field

Consensus must be reached

Challenges:

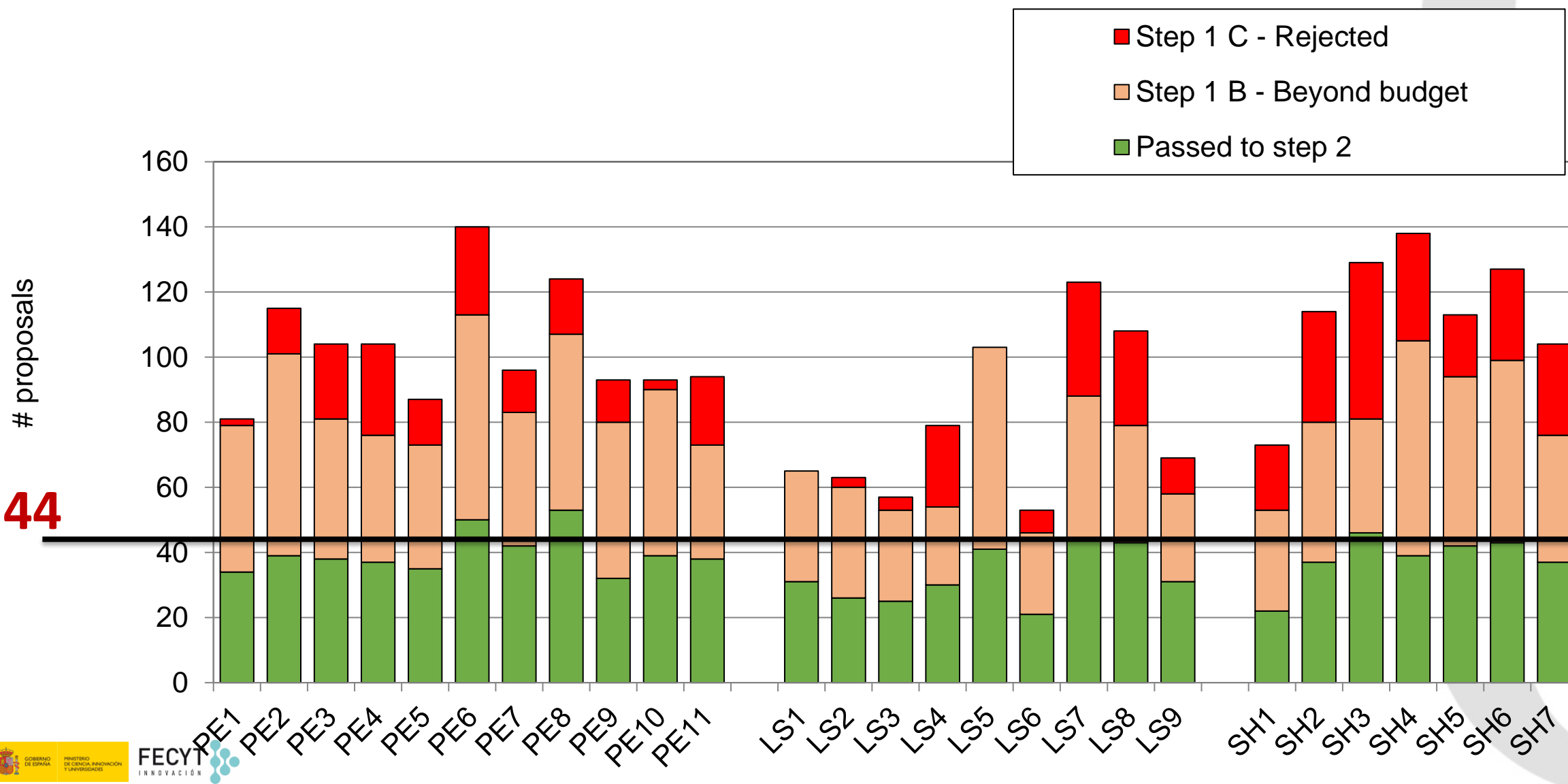
- Present your project to general audience
- Answer technical questions from experts
- Answer broad questions from non-experts



- Panel Chair
- Panel members involved
- ★ Lead reviewer
- Other panel members
- Reporter
- Evaluation Summary Reports from External experts
- ★ Principal Investigator

STG 2023 - Results of step 1

Final score by panel



Evaluation criteria ERC 2024& 2025 StG, CoG & AdG

Excellence is the sole evaluation criteria
applied to the Research Project + PI



Evaluation criteria ERC 2024& 2025 StG, CoG & AdG

Excellence is the sole evaluation criteria

applied to the Research Project + PI

Research Project

- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

- does the proposed research address important challenges?
- are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art? e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines?

Scientific Approach

- is the outlined scientific approach feasible ... ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? (B1)
- are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project? (B2)
- are the proposed timescales, resources and PI commitment adequate and justified? (B2)

Principal Investigator

- Intellectual capacity and creativity

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



Restrictions on submission of proposals

Step 1 restrictions	Step 2 NO restrictions
Score C: 2 years Score B: 1 Year Score A: no restriction 	Score B Score A Reserve list Main list

- A “C” score in Step 1 as outcome of ERC 2025 call may prevent you from resubmitting until 2028 calls.
- A “B” score in Step 1 as outcome of ERC2025 call may prevent you from resubmitting until 2027 calls.
- A “C” score in Step 1 as outcome of Synergy Grant 2023&2024 call may prevent you from resubmitting to the following SyG 2025 call
- Restriction related to PIs holding an ongoing grant (except PoC) must end within 2 years after the call deadline
- Restrictions for PIs who served as panel members under previous calls apply.

Applicants may also be subject to restrictions on submitting proposals to future ERC calls based on the outcome of the evaluation. Applicants will need to check the restrictions in place for each call

The Host Institution (HI)



Any type of **legal entity**, private or public (universities, research centres, industry,...)

Based in one of the **EU Member States**, or one of the **Associated Countries**.

The PI does not necessarily need to be working at the Host Institution at the time when the proposal is submitted.

The HI is not an evaluation criteria, but a **HI commitment letter** is needed with the proposal.

Must **host and engage** the PI for the whole duration of the action

Must **guarantee** the PI **scientific independence**

Must provide research support and administrative assistance (if granted)



Signature of the Grant Agreement

Signature of a Supplementary Agreement with the PI

Gender Equality Plan

The organization must have a Gender Equality Plan (GEP) at the time of signing the grant agreement

EU contribution and management of the grant

An ERC grant can cover up to **100% of the total eligible direct costs** of the research **plus 25%** contribution towards **indirect costs**.

Lump sums implementation for
ERC-Advanced Grant 2024 call

NEW
2024

Direct costs:

- Personnel costs (PI + research team)
- Purchases of equipment, infrastructure, or other assets (depreciation according to HI rules **& capitalised costs**)
- Consumables
- Travels, publications,...

NEW
2023

An applicant can request to include in the GA equipment, infrastructure, or other assets purchased specifically for the action that may exceptionally be declared as full capitalised costs.

- **Host Institution rules apply.**
- **Flexibility:** modifications are accepted by amendments to the GA
- Reports **in HE:**
 - HI submits 2 Financial (periodic) Reports (at months 30 and 60)
 - PI submits 2 Scientific (progress) Reports (at months 24 and 60)
- Grants receive between 25-40% pre-financing
- Management of the funds by the PI
- Grants are **portable**

EU contribution and management of the grant – Advanced Grant 2024 – Lump Sum - Principles

- Proposals include a **budget based on estimated costs** related to activities
- Budget is **assessed during evaluation** (resources justification and costs plausibility)
- Lump sum **amount defined by project** (different for each project) and **capped at** funding scheme **ceiling** (2,5 mio + 1 mio **additional funding**)
- **1 single lump sum contribution** for the entirety of the project (broken down by beneficiary only – NOT per work package)
- EU contribution **paid on basis of activities completion**. Not linked to successful outcome
- Once the Lump Sum contribution is established, **costs actually incurred are not relevant** (budget table (not included in the grant agreement) - **full flexibility** (transfer between costs categories)
- Differences at **submission**: Information on person-month needed & Equipment depreciation table
- Only difference at **evaluation**: **In-depth assessment of cost estimates** (i.e. reasonable and non-excessive)
- Difference at **Grant Agreement preparation**: detailed budget table included in the proposal is removed from the GA

Convocatoria conjunta Synergy Grant

- Estructura de propuesta
- Proceso y criterios de evaluación

EE

ERC – Synergy Grant scheme

Who can apply?

2-3-4 Principal Investigators of any nationality and at any career stage.

corresponding PI (cPI) and corresponding HI (cHI) will be the administrative contacts.

- PIs to engage genuinely in the collaboration.
- PIs can be in the same or different institutions.
- 3 step evaluation: with interviews on-site with all PIs in step 3
- **One PI (not the cPI) can apply (and be fully funded) with a Host Institution outside of EU or Associated Countries**



≥50% of working time in EU or Associated Countries (AC)* and
≥30% of working time on the ERC project

Funding

- Maximum of **10M€** for a maximum of **6 years**,
- **Additional max 4M€** globally for the project

*Note: it does not apply to the Principal Investigator applying with a Host Institution outside of EU or AC

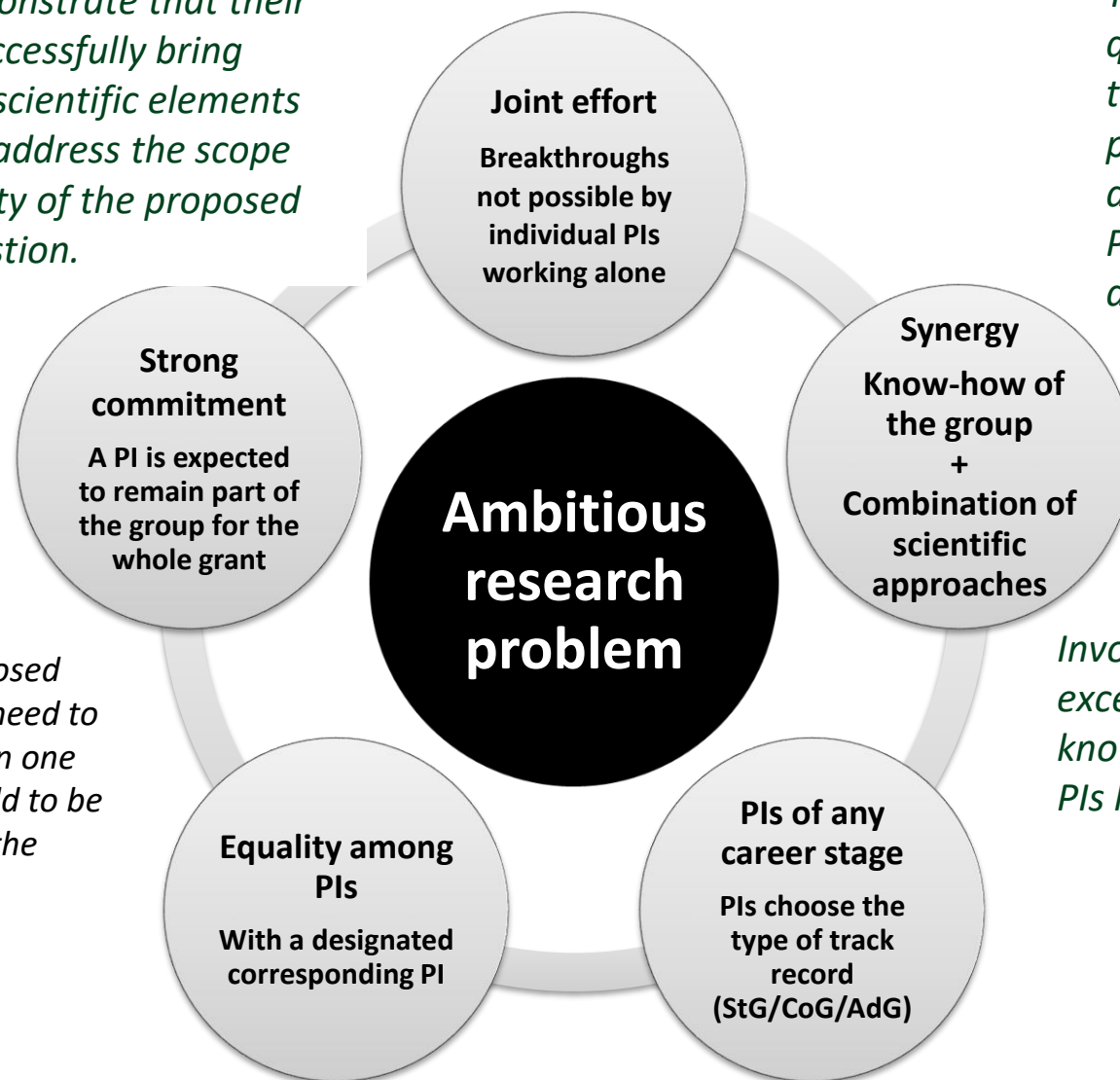
ERC Synergy grant features

PIs must demonstrate that their group can successfully bring together the scientific elements necessary to address the scope and complexity of the proposed research question.

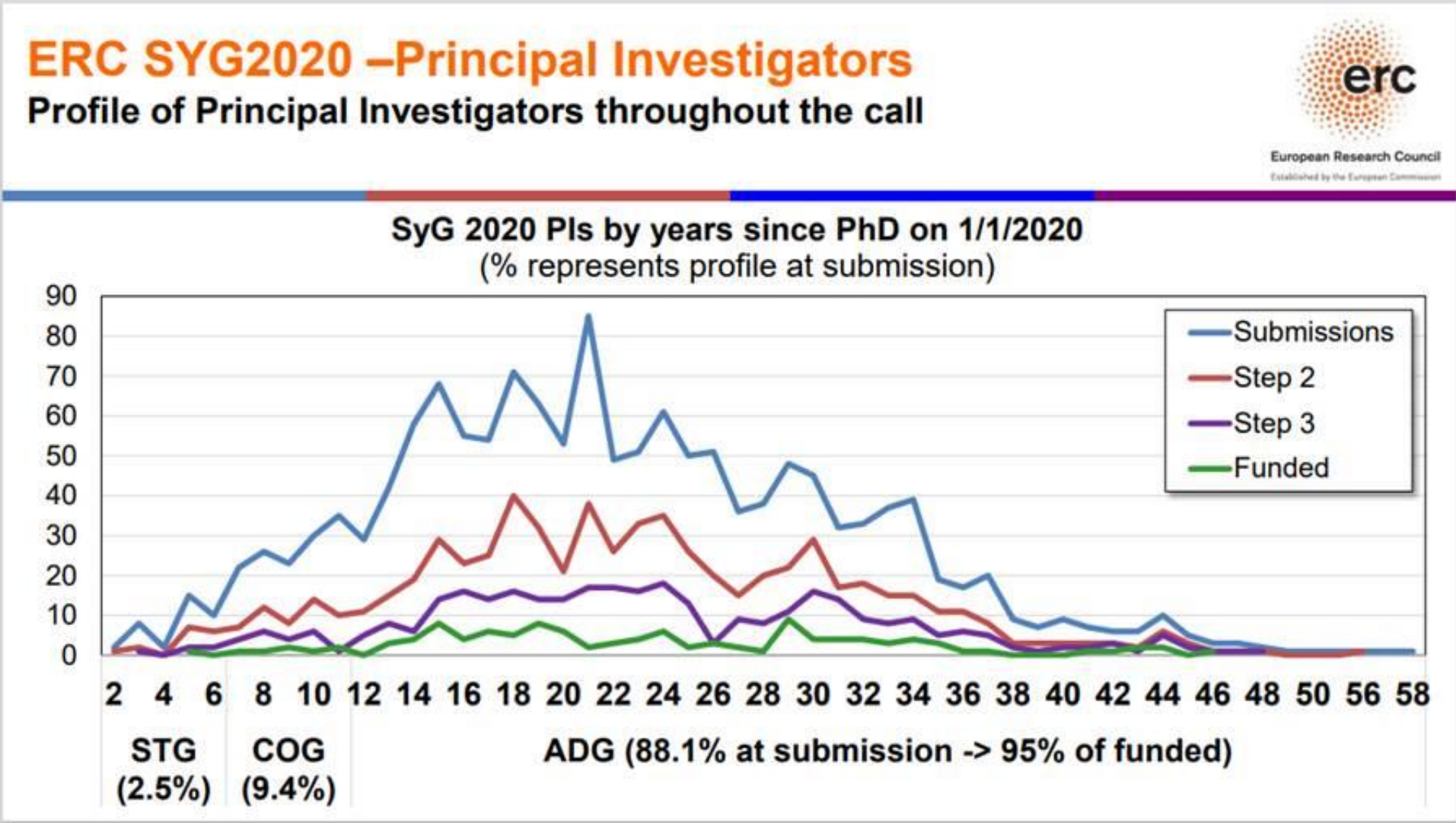
YES: A major scientific question with a transformative scientific potential that could not be addressed by an individual PI and their team working alone.

Note: The proposed work does not need to cover more than one discipline or field to be considered for the Synergy grants

Involves teams with exceptional combinations of knowledge and skills with the PIs holding a central role



ERC Synergy grant 2020 PIs profile



GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA



MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN Y UNIVERSIDADES



FECYT
INNOVACIÓN

ERC 2024 – Synergy Grant scheme - Structure of the proposal

One deadline | 3 steps evaluation process

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) **x PI**

NEW

*Evaluated in Step 1 &
Step 2 & Step 3*

Part B2 - pdf

Sa: SoA & objectives

Sb: Methodology
(15p)

Sc: Resources (**budget
breakdown per PI + a joint
one**)

*NOT evaluated in Step 1
(only in Step 2 & 3)*

Part A – online forms

A1 General Information

A2 Participants

A3 Budget*
table + description (8000c)

A4 Ethics and security

A5 Other questions
% Time commitment*
Excluded Reviewers (up to **4**)

Annexes

HI support letter

PhD certificate

Ethics and security issues

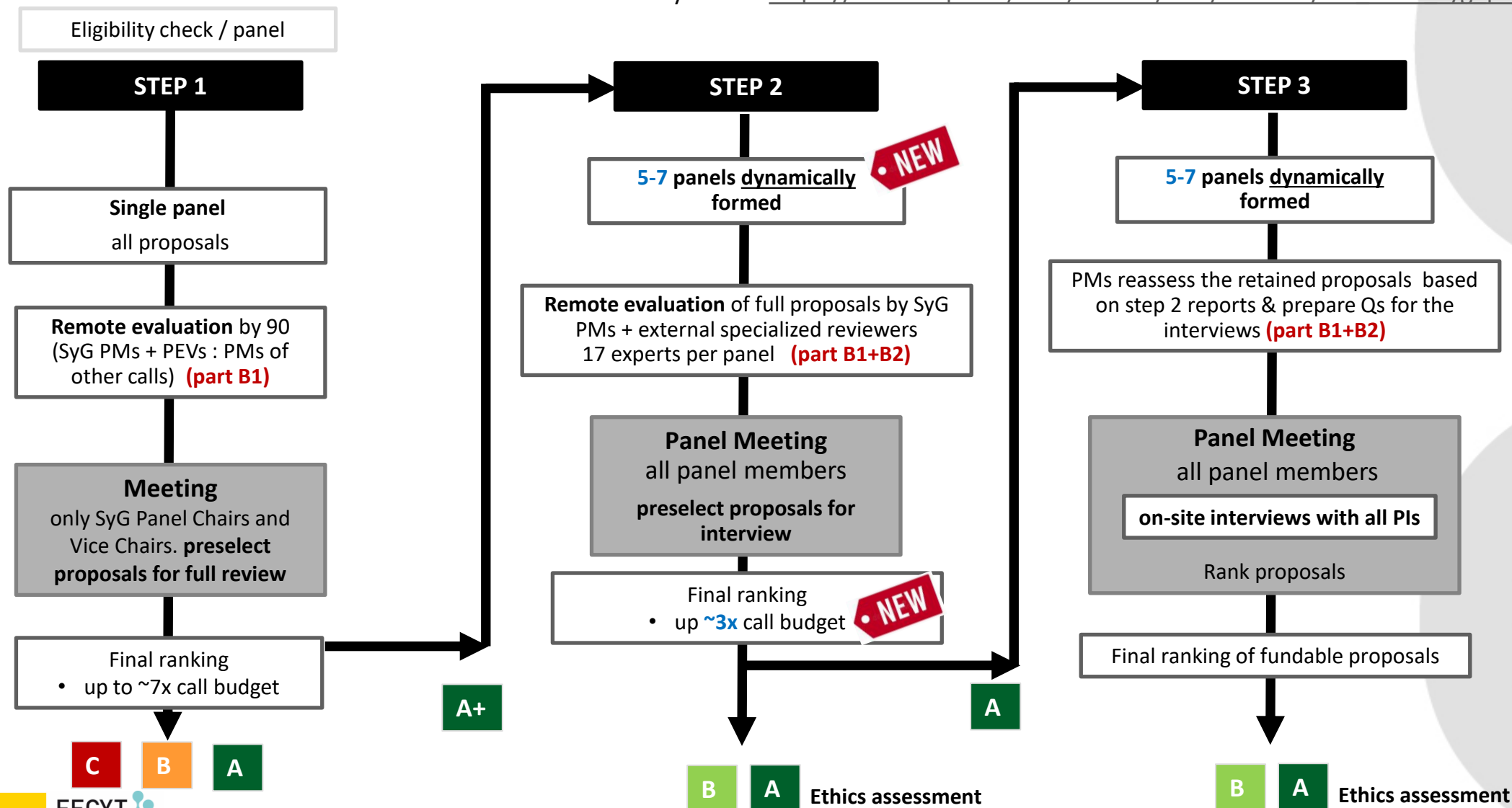
Template Eligibility Extension

NEW

ERC Evaluation process ERC SyG Grant 2024 / 2025 (some changes)

No predefined panels in SyG evaluations!

Panel Members SyG2023: https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2024-01/erc_2023_syg_panel_members.pdf



Evaluation criteria ERC 2024 StG, CoG, AdG & SYG

Excellence is the sole evaluation criteria

applied to the Research Project + PIs



Research Project

- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (B1+B2)

- does the proposed research address important challenges?
- are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art? e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines?

Scientific Approach

- is the outlined scientific approach feasible ... ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research? (B1)
- does the proposal go beyond what the individual PIs could achieve alone? (Synergy Grants, B1)
- do the PIs succeed in proposing a combination of scientific approaches that are crucial to address the scope and complexity of the research questions to be tackled? (Synergy Grants, B1)
- are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project? (B2)
- are the proposed timescales, resources and PI commitment adequate and justified? (B2)

Principal Investigator

- Intellectual capacity and creativity

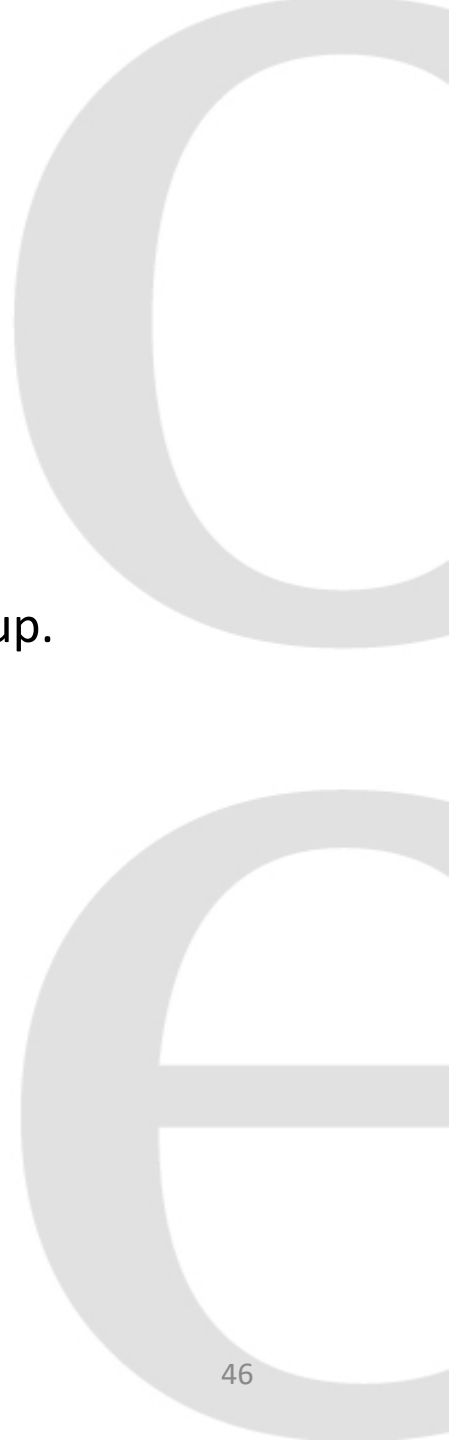
- demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research?
- evidence of creative and original thinking?
- required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project?
- does the SyG Group successfully demonstrate in the proposal that it brings together the know-how – such as skills, experience, expertise, disciplines, teams – necessary to address the proposed research question? (Synergy Grants, B1)



**I've got an idea,
could it be funded by
the ERC?**

The idea

- Present it to your colleagues (the more, the better).
- Read other proposals: open proposals, ERC Reading days, ask ERC Grantees directly...
- Does it have the potential to change the way your scientific field works?
- Identify which fields and how you will change them, which new horizons you will open up.
- An unconventional idea:
 - New concepts that did not exist before
 - Use of existing concepts in a different context or field
 - New combinations of related scientific principles
 - New combinations of previously unrelated scientific principles



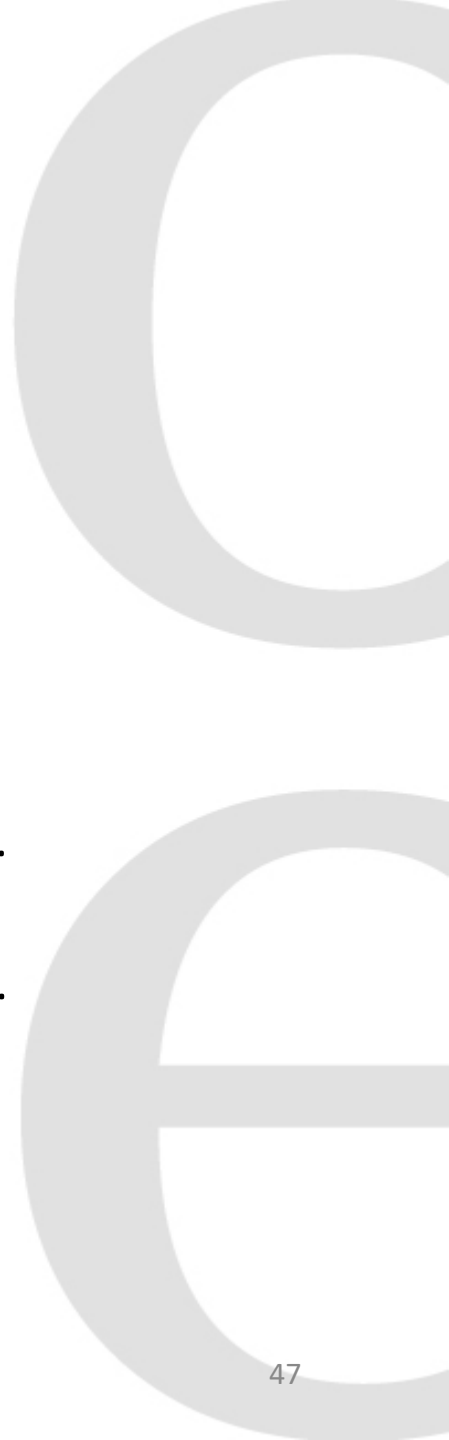
Is it incremental research?

- When it comes to your daily work, it sounds incremental.
- If you can submit it to other calls for proposals (splitting the budget).
- Natural step vs. original step: product of your experience or idea.
- We should present the project idea as a big step forward compared to the state of the art.
- INCREMENTAL \neq RISK

It is normal that what you propose is related to your background, experience and achievements.

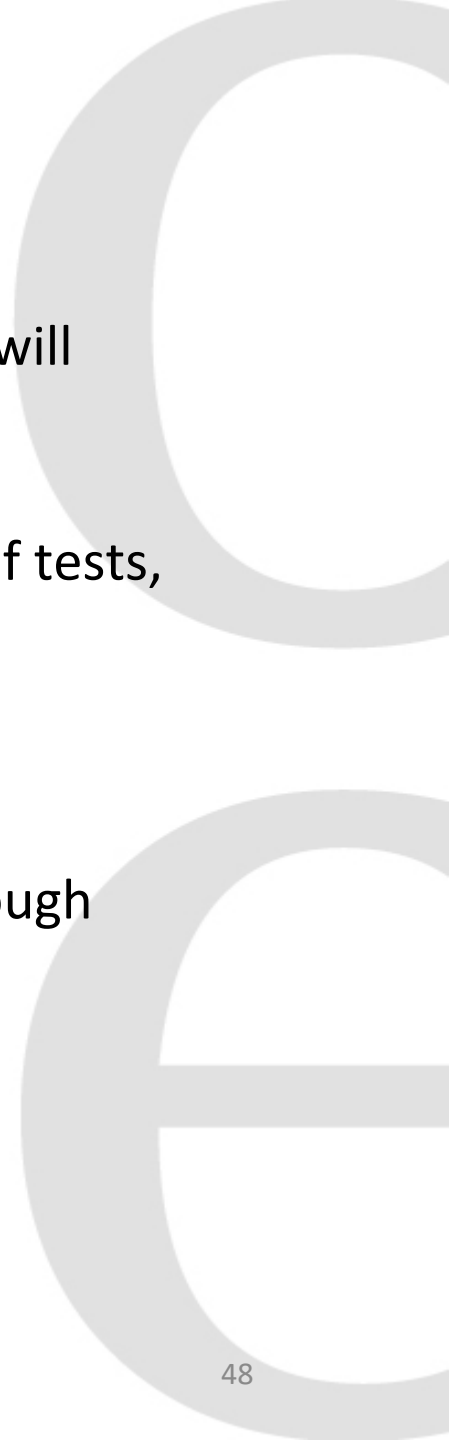
The key is that this is what will advance research and knowledge far beyond the SoA= High Gain.

- **Challenge:** Find the right balance between ambition and feasibility



Impact: What does high gain mean?

- Transformative impact: you will open up one or more new fields in which you will publish in the future. Other researchers will follow.
- Ambition: this does not mean proposing a very complex experiment (battery of tests, fieldwork, etc...), but rather a big step forward.
- Is it a real, important, recurring problem in the field?
- Potential of your idea. Your project may be the key to the necessary breakthrough
- New methods are not necessarily needed
- ERC's Impact \neq economic impact, societal impact

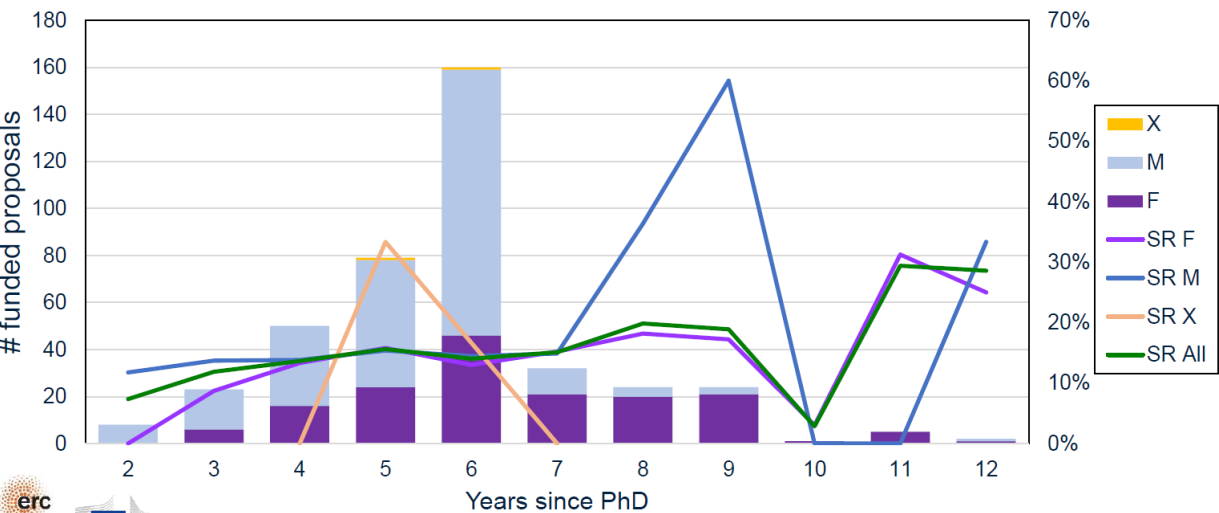


Find the right time to apply

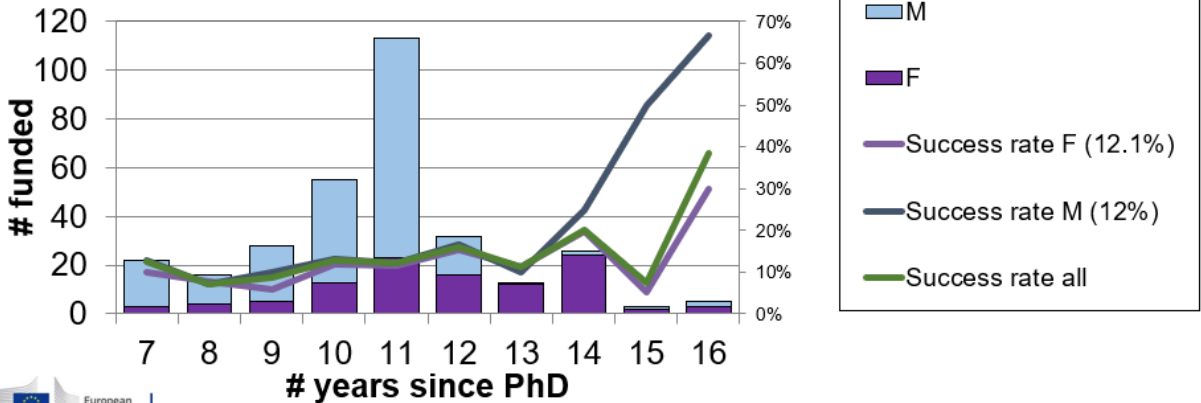
Years since PhD

STG 2022 - Results of step 2

Funded proposals by gender and years since PhD



COG 2021 Final Results



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission



Final message

DO NOT EXCLUDE

Yourself from participating in ERC calls

- **Take risks**, explain your project's high scientific impact if you reach your aims, and **provide evidence that you can do it**.
- **If you fail, try again!** Gain experience from evaluation. Panel feedback is useful and resubmissions have higher success rate.



Servicios FECYT al Programa ERC

EE

La Oficina Europea de la FECYT <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es/info/oficina-europea>

impulsamos la participación y liderazgo de la comunidad investigadora y centros de I+D españoles en el Programa Marco de I+D+i

NCPs

- ERC
- MSCA
- Cluster 1 "Salud"
- Cluster 2 "Cultura, creatividad y sociedad inclusiva"
- L&F
- EIC



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Spanish delegation ERC Programme



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission



**Representante
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Programa ERC**

National Contact Points ERC

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**Técnica soporte
a servicios ERC**



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Fundación Pública
Andaluza
Progreso y Salud



Leticia Ríaza
FECYT, MCIN



Carmen Estévez
FECYT, MCIN

How we can help you

24/05/2024

Jornada ERC-ADG-2024
lump sum Madrid



Con colaboraciones expertas,
fundamentalmente **ERC Grantees**

Step 1

Jornadas informativas

Talleres de preparación
propuestas

Reading Days



Revisión propuestas

Análisis perfiles bibliométricos
de ERC Grantees (2018-2020)

Step 2

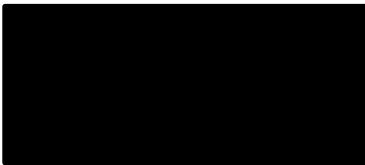
Simulacros de entrevistas



Soporte al tramitar la
portabilidad a una institución
española

Europa Excelencia (AEI) para las
ERC individuales con A sin
financiar

Asesoramiento a demanda ciclo de vida: propuesta y contrato



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DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN
Y UNIVERSIDADES



oficina
europea

Servicios estatales ERC

Árbol de servicios ERC: <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es/arbol-de-servicios-de-apoyo-al-programa-european-research-council-erc>



CIENCIA EXCELENTE DESAFÍOS MUNDIALES EUROPA INNOVADORA WIDENING+ERA MÁS EUROPA

Inicio

Noticias

Pilar 1: CIENCIA EXCELENTE

Consejo Europeo de Investigación (ERC)

Árbol de servicios de apoyo al programa European Research Council -ERC



Árbol de servicios de apoyo al programa European Research Council -ERC

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02 de Febrero de 2024

Consejo Europeo de Investigación (ERC)

Información relacionada con los servicios de apoyo a las convocatorias del programa European Research Council (ERC) organizados desde FECYT: Vamos actualizando la información en este árbol, pero también te puedes suscribir a [nuestro boletín](#) para que te lleguen las novedades al correo.

Convocatorias ERC 2024 (visión general)

- [Presentaciones Infoday nacional ERC WP 2024](#)
- [Grabación webinar WP ERC 2024](#)
- [Webinar ERC Work Programme 2024 \(20/09/2024\)](#)

ERC Starting Grant

Si estás preparando tu solicitud a ERC-StG 2024

- [ERC Reading Days \(lectura de propuestas financiadas\)](#)
- [Webinars ERC-StG 2024](#)

Si has sido invitado a segunda fase en ERC-StG-2024: [Simulacros de entrevista](#) (inscripciones próximamente marzo 2024)

ERC-Consolidator Grant

Si estás preparando tu solicitud a ERC-CoG

- [ERC Reading Days \(lectura de propuestas financiadas\)](#)
- [Webinars ERC-CoG 2024](#)

Si has sido invitado a segunda fase en ERC-CoG-2024: [simulacros de entrevista](#) (inscripciones junio o julio 2024)

Servicios estatales ERC

Propuestas ERC exitosas y en abierto: <https://www.horizonteeuropa.es/propuestas-erc-exitosas-financiadas-y-en-abierto>

RC Propuestas ERC exitosas, financiadas y en abierto

Propuestas ERC exitosas, financiadas y en abierto

115
Shares



26 de Mayo de 2021

Consejo Europeo de Investigación (ERC)

En esta sección compilamos las propuestas ERC exitosas y que amablemente han sido publicadas en abierto por sus autores.

La lectura de propuestas financiadas es, sin lugar a dudas, de gran ayuda para todas las personas que enfrenta este proceso de escritura en sus propias solicitudes.

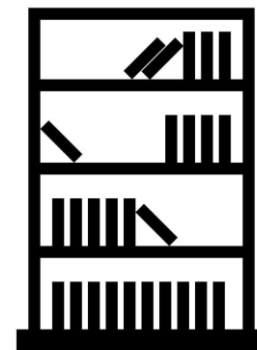
Esto es una biblioteca viva: si te animas a poner en abierto tu propuesta financiada ERC, coméntanoslo que la incluyamos también aquí. ¡Muchas gracias!

Las propuestas están ordenadas por paneles dominios científicos (PE, LS, SH) y por orden cronológico descendente. El último apartado es para el esquema Synergy Grant donde no hay paneles preestablecidos:

Physical Sciences:

- Acronym: **ALiEN**
- Project Title: Autonomous Linguistic Emergence in Neural Networks
- Grant Type: Advanced grants
- Researcher: Baroni Marco
- Grant Type: Advanced grants
- Topic: PE6: Computer Science and Informatics
- Call ID: ERC-2020-ADG
- Sections B1+B2

- Acronym: **MAGCOW**
- Project Title: The Magnetised Cosmic Web



Resources

ee

Videos ERC Classes

Videos

series of videos – [ERC Classes](#) – for potential applicants:

Step-by-step to the ERC application process (5:19 min)

<https://youtu.be/xbFbzKVWgCU>

How to get started with your ERC grant? (11:37 min)

<https://youtu.be/O7mOFL2tIQ8>

How to write part 1 of your ERC proposal? (14:33 min)

<https://youtu.be/HsmQRM88yyM>

How to write part 2 of your ERC proposal? (8:26 min)

<https://youtu.be/NnDLnabEpxQ>

How do we evaluate your ERC proposal? (11:48 min)






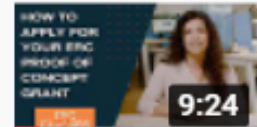
<https://youtu.be/FFhZX00AUV4>

How to prepare for your ERC interview? (9:02 min)

<https://youtu.be/F4qXVGcdH5w>

How to apply for your ERC Proof of Concept Grant

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_WAkrKgWKS

1		Step by Step to the ERC application process European Research Council
2		How to get started with your ERC proposal European Research Council
3		How to write part 1 of your ERC proposal European Research Council
4		How to write part 2 of your ERC proposal European Research Council
5		How do we evaluate your ERC proposal European Research Council
7		How to apply for your ERC Proof of Concept Grant European Research Council

ERC Useful links

ERC Work Programme 2024

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2024/wp_horizon-erc-2024_en.pdf

Information for Applicants to the Starting and Consolidator Grant calls

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/experts/guide-for-peer-reviewers_he-erc-stg-cog_en.pdf

Information for Applicants to the Synergy Grant Call

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/information-for-applicants_he-erc-syg_en.pdf

Information for Applicants to the Proof of Concept Call

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/information-for-applicants_he-erc-poc_en.pdf

Guide for peer reviews Starting and Consolidator Grant calls

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/experts/guide-for-peer-reviewers_he-erc-stg-cog_en.pdf

How to complete your ethics self-assessment: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf

Open Research Data and Data Management Plans

- https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_info_document-Open_Research_Data_and_Data_Management_Plans.pdf
- <https://erc.europa.eu/thematic-working-groups/working-group-open-access>
- https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/open-access-dissemination_en.htm

General Model Grant Agreement Horizon Europe

- https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/agr-contr/general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!



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