

MSCA4Ukraine Fellowship Programme: 2024 Call for Applications

Template for the statement of the academic mentor

Please prepare a statement on your organisation's letterhead briefly outlining (no more than 2 pages/ 1,500 words) the motivation and scientific match or complementarity of the candidate's research expertise to that of your research group. Therefore, please assess the academic profile of the candidate, their academic achievements and potential. This statement should demonstrate a suitable professional match and your commitment to supporting the candidate and their research. This statement should be confidential, i.e. it should not be shared with the candidate. This statement must be signed by the researcher, who is able to act as an academic mentor (in case of PhD candidates: is authorised to supervise PhD students), and submitted as a separate PDF-document through the online application portal.

The following questions are designed to assist you in preparing your statement:

- Do you know the candidate personally, have you collaborated in the past and/or are you in contact with their current institution?
- How do the candidate's academic specialisation and research interests align with your own?
- How will the research project overlap/interact with or complement other work being carried out at your institution?
- To what extent were you involved in drawing up the candidate's research proposal?
- How would you assess the candidate's academic career, academic achievements to date (such as publications) and profile – taking into account the respective circumstances under which the candidate has been working thus far?
- Has the candidate demonstrated the ability and/or potential to carry out ambitious and original research? How would you assess the proposed research project of the candidate, especially in regard to academic (methodological) quality and feasibility of pursuing this research at the host institution?
- How would you assess the candidate's perspectives for further academic qualification and success during the fellowship period?
- How would you assess the candidate's potential for future academic achievements beyond the fellowship period?
- What measures do you plan to take to enhance the career perspectives of the candidate and contribute to their professional skills development? Please provide details of any training to be offered to the candidate, focused on developing new scientific knowledge through original research. Please also outline any complementary training and professional development activities tailored to the career status of the candidate to be provided to develop key transferable skills and competences common to all fields, foster innovation and entrepreneurship, and promote and (where appropriate) reward Open Science practices.

- Which specific measures do you plan in order to support the candidate in navigating academic and professional challenges and in preparing for opportunities after the funding ends?
- Please provide an explanation of the requested fellowship duration in respect to the specific needs and interests of the candidate, including related training and support concepts. The minimum allowed fellowship duration is 6 months; the maximum is 2 years. If the duration requested is less than two years, please clarify why this duration is in the best interest of the candidate. If the duration requested is because, for example, the candidate's intention is to return to Ukraine after 6 months, please demonstrate the realistic short-term measures that are underway or planned to prepare for such reintegration.
- Are there any additional measures you are planning for the fellowship to contribute to capacity-building and/or to foster collaboration with Ukraine?