

MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Developing talents, advancing research



Funding opportunities and inclusion measures under MSCA

31 March 2025

Marija Mitic

European Commission, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

- Flagship programme for training & mobility* of researchers
- Part of **Horizon Europe** (€ 95.5 bn)
- Budget: **€ 6.6 billion** (2021-2027)
- Worldwide geographic coverage
- Open to researchers of any nationality, career stage, research field



*Mobility rule for researchers (DN, PF, COFUND):

They must not have resided/carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months before their recruitment date/the deadline of the co-funded programme's call.

Time spent by the researcher as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention* is not taken into account.



MSCA: main actions and opportunities for researchers

Doctoral Networks

Doctoral programmes in and outside academia incl. joint & industrial doctorates Postdoctoral Fellowships Support to excellent postdoctoral researchers

Staff Exchanges Support for research and innovation staff exchanges

Co-funding doctoral and postdoctoral programmes

MSCA Work Programme, p.8:

"MSCA projects are also encouraged to facilitate access by researchers at risk, through tailored support and career services, including job search assistance in the researcher's new geographical area."



Doctoral Networks

- **Consortia** (min 3 entities) set up a doctoral programme (any topic, excellence as main criterion)
- Individual researchers (doctoral candidates):
 - Any nationality
 - Mobility required (mobility rule)
 - Salary + applicable allowances (incl.special needs and/or family allowance)
 - Fellowship: 3-36 months (up to 48 months for Joint Doctorates)
 - Short-term training secondments (optional)
- Information about vacancies: Euraxess (obligation to post)
- Application to the doctoral programme directly



Type of DN:

- Standard (different modalities)
- Industrial (intersectoral mandatory)
- Joint (degree of integration)



Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Application: host institution (entities in EU/AC) together with researcher (F&T portal)
- + TC entities for Global Fellowships (hosts)
- Individual researchers (PhD holders):
 - Any nationality
 - Mobility required (mobility rule)
 - Salary + applicable allowances (incl.special needs and/or family allowance)
 - Fellowships: depending on the type \rightarrow
 - Short-term secondments (optional)
 - 6-months non-academic placements at the end (optional)
- Information about positions: Find host directly / Euraxess



Types of fellowships:

- European (12-24M in EU/AC any nationality)
- Global (12-24M outside, 12M return EU/AC – nationals/longterm EU/AC residents)



COFUND

- **Application:** coordinating entity (only 1 beneficiary!)
- **Funding**: for existing programmes (regional, national, international), up to 60M
- Individual researchers:
 - Any nationality
 - Mobility required (mobility rule)
 - Salary + applicable allowances (incl.special needs and/or family allowance)
 - PhD or postdoc fellowships: depending on the type \rightarrow
 - Fellowships duration: depends on the host
 - Short-term secondments (optional)
- Information about positions: Euraxess



Types of COFUND actions:

- Doctoral programmes
- Postdoctoral programmes



Staff Exchanges

- **Application:** consortium (min.3 organisations)
- Funding: research cooperation, short-term mobility (projects up to 48M)
- Individual researchers:
 - Any nationality (employed by participating institution min.1M before the start)
 - Short-term mobility/secondments (1-12M total in-built in SE design)
 - Salary by employer, potential top-up for mobility
 - Research and non-research staff (admin, technical, managerial)
- Information about positions: Employer / sending organisation



The most international action in MSCA



MSCA call calendar 2025

Year	Action	Opening	Deadline
2024	Postdoctoral Fellowships	08 May 2025	10 September 2025
	Doctoral Networks	28 May 2025	25 November 2025
	Staff Exchanges	27 March 2025	08 October 2025
	COFUND	23 January 2025	24 June 2025



MSCA grants and support measures

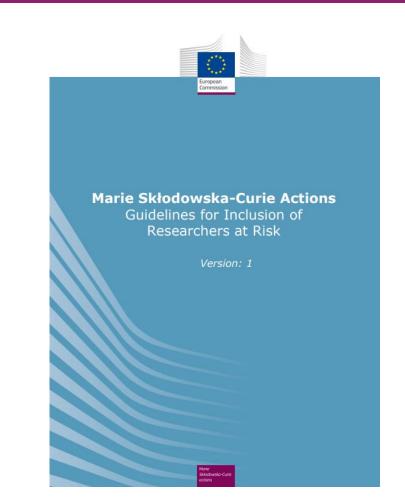
- Work Programme (encouragement for hosts and acknowledgement of refugee process)
- **Guidelines** on the inclusion of researchers at risk (support for potential hosts and researchers, recommended and good practice)
- Inspireurope and Inspireurope+ projects (2019-2022, 2022-2025): grants to support networks and guidance for researchers/employers (training, webinars)
- MSCA4Ukraine (2022-2027): fellowships for researchers from Ukraine (170+)
- **SAFE** project (2024-2027): support grant through European Parliament to test the viability of a European fellowship scheme (60 fellowships, risk assessment, training and guidance)



MSCA Guidelines on the inclusion of researchers at risk

- Who are researchers at risk?
- Why supporting researchers at risk is important?
- How to support researchers at risk through some best practice examples and main recommendations
- Where to find more information

https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/aboutmsca/guidelines-for-inclusion-of-researchers-at-risk





Home > Inspireurope

Inspireurope+

Funded by the European Union

About Inspireurope+

Inspireurope+

< 1 >



- Training and guidance for researchers
- Guidance for employers ٠
- Policy recommendations
- Networking and coordination at European level

Information concerning the 2024 Call

MSCA4 UKRAINE

(Updated 6 September 2024)

The application portal for the second call of MSCA4Ukraine is now closed. Further information is available on the Information for Applicants webpage.

for Applications to MSCA4Ukraine

Additional funding for MSCA4Ukraine fellowships (Updated 18 April 2024)

The MSCA4Ukraine implementing partners welcome the news by the nission about the allocation of additional EUR 10 million for fellowships for researchers displaced from Ukraine.

The extra funding will enable around 50 additional researchers, including doctoral candidates and postdoctoral researchers, who were forced to flee Ukraine, to continue their work safely on research projects at host institutions based in the EU and Horizon Europe associated countries. It will also allow the researchers to access training, skills and career development opportunities. Specific support will be available for organisations hosting the researchers and those fellows relocating with their families.

Further information can be found on the MSCA website.

Information on the first MSCA4Ukraine Call

The results of the first call were released in February 2023. Funded under the EU's Marie Sklodowska Curie Actions, the scheme provides fellowship support to 125 researchers from Ukraine to continue their research in 21 hos countries.

List of successful applications

Featured MSCA4Ukraine Awardees

Key documents and resources



MSCA4Ukraine re-opening webinar Highlights and main takeaways				
0053 / 4:18	. •	Youliabe		

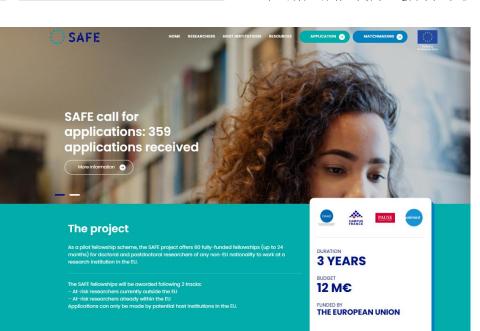


European

Commission

2024 Call for Applications

- Fellowships up to 2 years
- Support for host organisations
- Career development plan
- Networking and training for researchers



Funded by the European Union

Google Slides

INSPIREUROPE+

An Overview

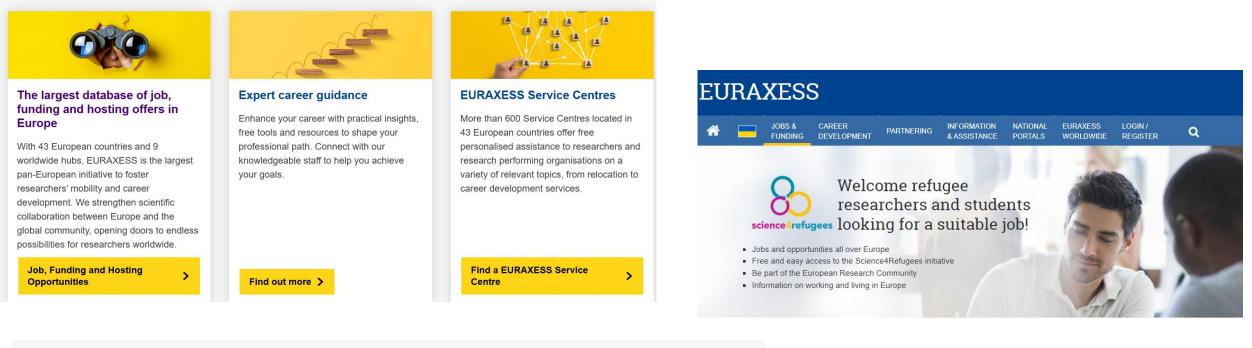
Inspireurope+ Actions:

Coordinating European support : The Inspireurope+ Coordinating Committee serves as a vehicle for cooperation and coordination of European support for researchers at risk

Guidance and support for researchers at risk: Together with researchers at risk, Inspireurope+ partners work together to design, develop, and implement a series of career development webinars and interactive training opportunities. Through guidance, training and consultations with over 300 researchers at risk, Inspireurope+ helps to build up the skills and knowledge needed to facilitate access to European, national and institutional funding and support.

Building institutional capacity and preparedness: Inspireurope+ helps to prepare academic and non-academic institutions across Europe to support and the second second

EURAXESS IN A NUTSHELL



EURAXESS FIGURES AT WORLDWIDE LEVEL.



Find offers

https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs





Useful resources

- MSCA <u>Work Programme 2023/24</u> (WP 2025 forthcoming)
- Calls on <u>Funding and Tenders Portal</u>
- Vacancies on <u>Euraxess</u>
 - refreshed science4refugees page <u>Science4Refugees | EURAXESS</u>
- MSCA <u>website</u> and social media information about webinars/info days organised by the European Commission / REA
- Guidance from <u>MSCA National Contact Points</u>, incl. <u>matchmaking platform</u>
- MSCA <u>Alumni Association</u>
- MSCA Guidelines on Supervision





Thank you # HorizonEU #MSCA @MSCActions

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/



© European Union 2021

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the CC BY 4.0 license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders. Image credits: © ivector #235536634, #249868181, #251163013, #266009682, #273480523, #362422833, #241215668, #244690530, #245719946, #251163053, #252508849, 2020. Source: Stock.Adobe.com. Icons © Flaticon – all rights reserved.