



# Marie Skłodowska- Curie Actions

**Moving research  
talent forward**

**MSCA Infoday – roadshow**

*Ankara, 16 May 2019*

*Istanbul, 17 May 2019*

**Stijn Delauré, PhD**

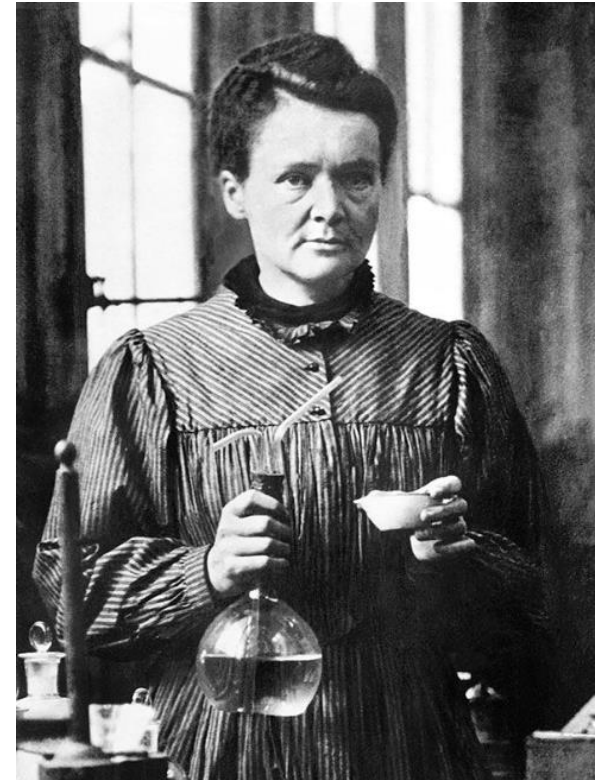
European Commission

Directorate-General for Education, Youth,  
Sport and Culture

*Unit Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions*

# Overview

- Introduction to the MSCA
- Turkey & the MSCA
- MSCA-IF-2019 call modalities (*Renat Bilyalov*)
- Other MSCA opportunities (*Renat Bilyalov*)
- What's next? The MSCA in Horizon Europe



Marie Skłodowska-Curie

# ***Horizon 2020 (2014-2020) Framework Programme***



€77 billion research and innovation funding programme (2014-2020)



**MSCA: *European Union's main programme for researcher training and career development***  
(budget: €6.2 billion)

# MSCA key features

## Research training and career development



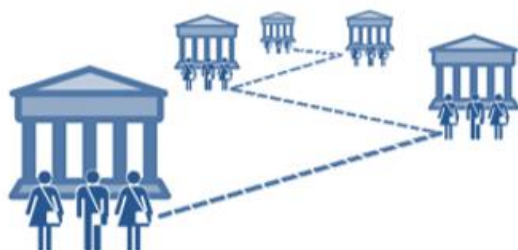
# MSCA 2014-2020



**ITN** Doctoral education  
**Innovative Training Networks**  
(host-driven, network recruiting ~PhD students)



**IF** Postdoc training  
**Individual Fellowships**  
(researcher-driven, incoming & outgoing mobility, ~postdoctoral researchers)



**RISE** Collaboration  
**Research and Innovation Staff Exchange**  
(for all types of research staff, collaboration with non-European entities and/or private sector)



**COFUND** Synergies



# Seal of excellence for MSCA-IF

★ SEAL OF  
EXCELLENCE



*I very much welcome the initiatives of several Member States to introduce new funding schemes for MSCA Seal of Excellence recipients and I strongly encourage other countries to do the same.*

**Tibor Navracsics**

*Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport*



Image: © European Union 2017

**#SealofExcellence**

**@EU\_H2020**

**#H2020**

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/seal-excellence/funding-opportunities-under-msca\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/seal-excellence/funding-opportunities-under-msca_en)



# MSCA Special Needs allowance

- **Why?** A new allowance **to support MSCA fellows with long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments**, whose participation in MSCA would not be possible without extra financial support.
- **What?** It covers **additional costs** that MSCA researchers/staff members with a disability face due to the increased costs of their mobility during the **main ITN, IF, RISE or COFUND action**.
  - ✓ assistance by third persons
  - ✓ adaptation of work environment
  - ✓ additional travel/transportation costs
- **What not?** It cannot fund costs which are already **covered by another source** (e.g. social security or health insurance).
- **How much?** A maximum of **EUR 60 000 per researcher/staff member** (total budget for 2019: EUR 1 000 000).
- **How? Individual-based** proposals can be submitted by MSCA beneficiaries. Next deadline: autumn 2019.

# Open and future calls

call	opening	closing	budget (M€)
ITN	12/09/2019	14/01/2020	530.13
IF	11/04/2019	11/09/2019	294.49
	08/04/2020	09/09/2020	328
RISE	05/12/2019	28/04/2020	80
COFUND	04/04/2019	26/09/2019	90
	08/04/2020	29/09/2020	100
NIGHT	08/10/2019	09/01/2020	8

Work programme 2020 to be adopted on 27 June 2019

*Changes: definition academic sector, clarification on civil society organisations, budget increase for ITN and IF*

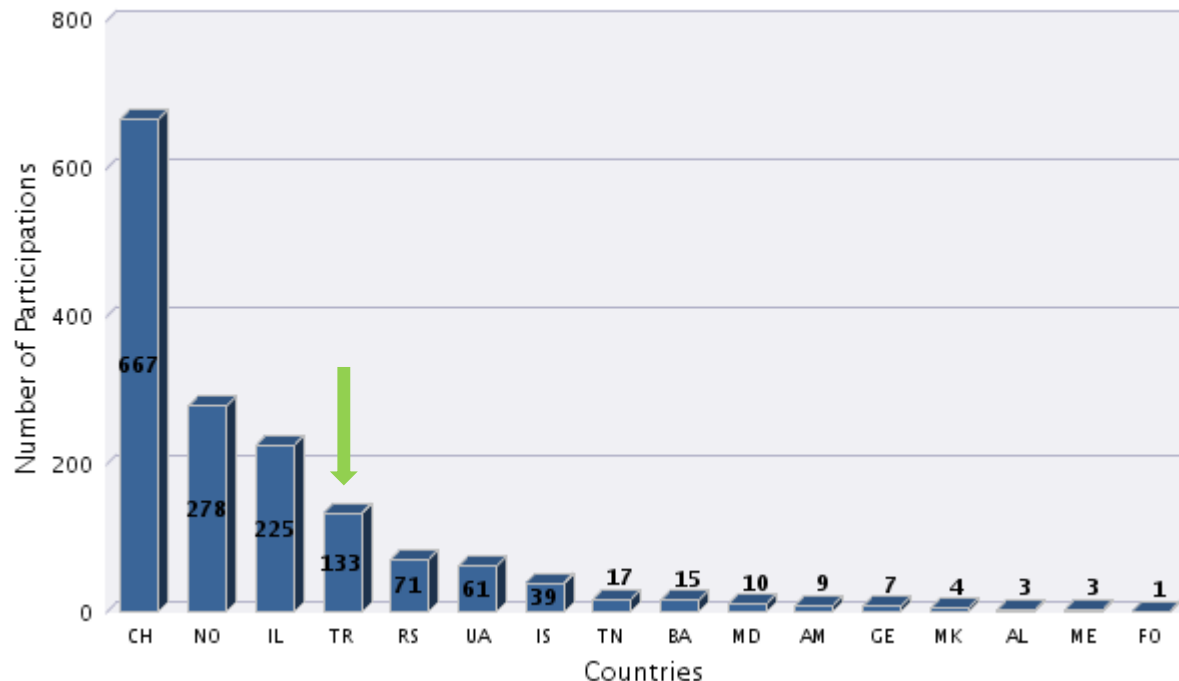


# Turkey and the MSCA

409 Turkish researchers funded  
138 researchers going to Turkish organisations

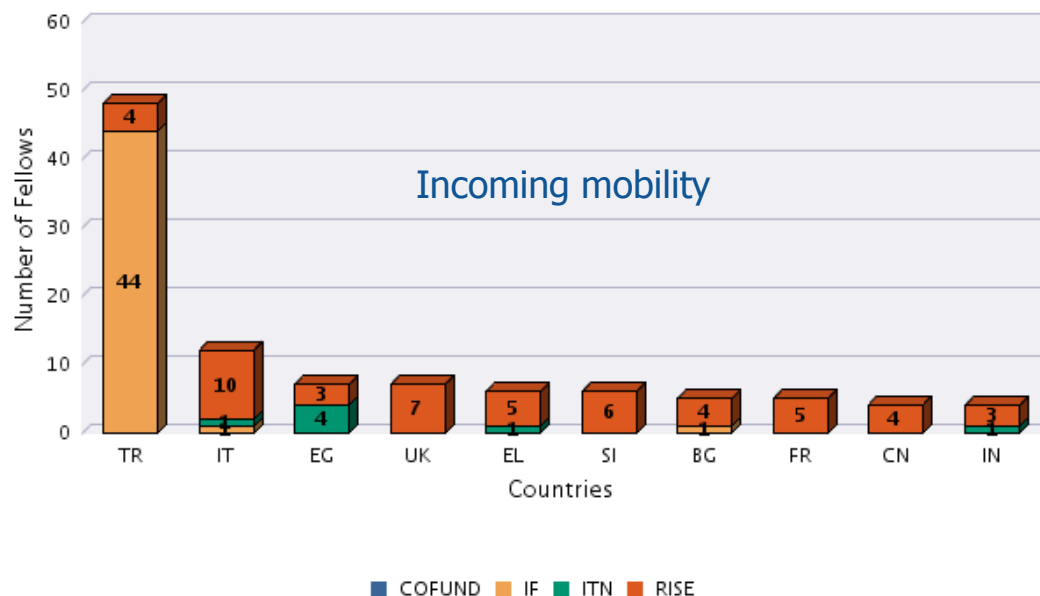
74 Turkish organisations participating (in total 133 participations)  
MSCA budget awarded to Turkish organisations: € 21 Mio

Number of participations of AC organisations

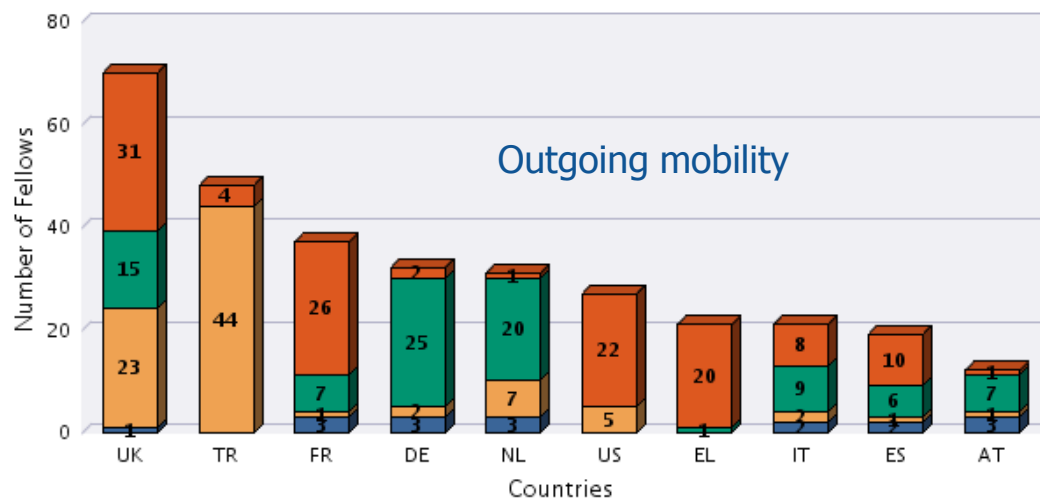


# Mobility patterns

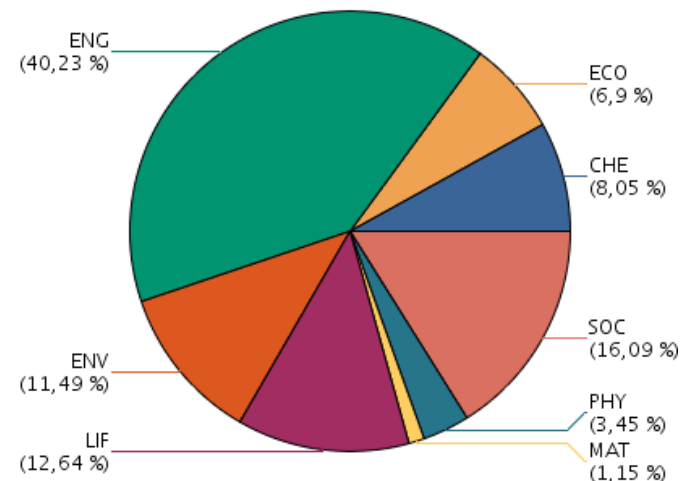
Fellows going to TR, grouped by their nationality (top 10 nationalities)



TR fellows (nationals) grouped by country of destination (top 10 countries)



# Disciplinary distribution



**Gender balance**  
48%-52% female-male  
(average EU: 42%-58%)

# Collaborative links with Turkey

Top collaborative links with TR\*

Country	Number of Collaborations
IT - Italy	86
UK - United Kingdom	81
ES - Spain	68
FR - France	65
DE - Germany	32

\* A collaborative link is assumed to exist between each pair of participants in each contract. The number of collaborative links created by a project is calculated in the following way: When there are  $m$  participants from one country and  $p$  from another country in a project, the number of collaborative links created between the two countries as a result of the project is assumed to be  $m \times p$ .

## Type of organisation

Participating TR organisations by type of organisation

	Total	% Total	% Average AC
Academic	99	74,44 %	70,19 %
Non-Academic	34	25,56 %	29,81 %
• Private for Profit	23	17,29 %	24,89 %
• SMEs	9	6,77 %	9,66 %

# MSCA Romanian Presidency conference

# MSCA

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS  
TO FOSTER SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

BUCHAREST, 4-5 JUNE 2019



- Widening participation and sharing excellence
- Careers and mobility for open European science landscape
- Synergies between Horizon Europe and ESIF
- Inter-sectoral mobility



# Explore the world with MSCA



<http://ec.europa.eu/msca>



# The Marie Skłodowska- Curie Actions in 2021-2027 (Horizon Europe)



# HORIZON EUROPE, objectives and structure

Support the creation and diffusion  
of high-quality knowledge

Strengthen the impact of R&I  
in supporting EU policies

Foster all forms of innovation and  
strengthen market deployment

**Optimise the Programme's delivery for impact in a strengthened ERA**



## Pillar 1 Excellent Science

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Infrastructures



## Pillar 2 Global Challenges and Industrial Competitiveness

Clusters

- Health
- Inclusive and Creative Society
- Secure Society
- Digital and Industry
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food and natural resources

Joint Research Centre



## Pillar 3 Open Innovation

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation  
and Technology

## Strengthening the European Research Area

Widening Participation and Sharing excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

*(draft scheme, to be updated after adoption legal base)*

**Excellent Science:** reinforcing and extending  
the excellence of the Union's science base

# MSCA in Horizon Europe

- Overall: **continuation**
- Investing in **the people behind R&I**, delivering talents and improving careers
- Bottom-up, competition-based research programme
- Creating impact on researchers, institutions, systems
- 5 areas of intervention:
  - *mobility of researchers*
  - *training of researchers*
  - *strengthening human capital across the ERA*
  - *facilitating synergies*
  - *promoting public outreach*



# MSCA in Horizon Europe, guiding principles

- Researcher-centred, new skills and knowledge
- Charter and Code principles
- Triple I cross-boundary collaboration and mobility:
  - International
  - Inter-sectoral (incl research-business)
  - Interdisciplinary
- Open to all domains, relevance for society (SDGs)
- Responsible Research & Innovation
  - Equal opportunities
  - Open Science and FAIR data
- Principles of equality, diversity and inclusion



# MSCA 2021-2027: *under construction*



1. MSCA Doctorates
2. MSCA Postdocs
3. MSCA Exchanges
4. MSCA Synergies
5. MSCA Festivals

→ *doctoral candidates*  
→ *postdoctoral researchers*  
→ *any type of research(-related) staff*  
→ *co-funding training programmes*  
→ *public outreach events*



# Evolution in the implementation

- **Streamlined actions.** From 9 sub-actions to 5 actions
- Continuation of simplified form of grants
- **Simpler rules, fine-tuned definitions,** harmonised conditions
- Demand management
- Improved internal coherence & reinforced external synergies



# 1. MSCA Doctorates

- MSCA will continue to support doctoral candidates and programmes
- Integrating objectives of 3 sub-actions into a **single action**
  - Incentives for industrial or joint doctorates
  - Pre-agreement for joint degrees required
- Manage demand, improve success rates
  - Reduce #fellow-months/project – restrict resubmissions below quality threshold



## 2. MSCA Postdocs

- Continue supporting post-doctoral researchers
- Focus on the **scientifically younger generation**
  - Scientific age: # years of experience in research after obtaining PhD degree
  - Emphasis on new and early career researchers (legal base, recital 9)
  - Structuring effects, avoiding 'permadoes'
- Clarify and simplify. From 5 sub-actions to 1 **single action**
- Deliver highly-skilled talents to both academia and beyond
  - Supervision & career development
  - Collaboration & exposure beyond academia



### 3. MSCA Exchanges

- Continue supporting staff exchanges, **open to any type of staff**
- Emphasis on the **added-value of the collaboration** itself
- Lean and flexible tool to support collaboration
- I<sup>3</sup> approach, incl. academia-to-academia exchanges within Europe



## 4. MSCA Synergies

- Continue **co-funding** national, regional, institutional schemes for doctoral training and postdoctoral fellowships
- Introduce **sustainable structuring effects**, spread best practice
- Simplification: **increase in total EU contribution** up to the minimum amount required to pay the fellow. No mandatory top-up.
- Greater focus on new beneficiaries and new training programmes





## 5. MSCA Festivals

- Continuation of the **European Researchers' Night**-like activities
- **Extension** to existing outreach events
  - Supporting also other science festivals and outreach events with EU-added value



**in 2018: 1.5 million visitors**

# Managing the demand

- **Highly attractive programme, systematically oversubscribed**
  - Success rates decrease (7% for ITN in 2017)
  - Number of applications increase (>9,800 for IF in 2018)
  - Resubmissions
- **Consequently:**
  - Increasing number of top quality applications remain unfunded (ITN, IF)
  - Increasing complexity to manage the proposal evaluation (IF)
- **Designing measures to better manage the demand**



# Sharing excellence

- Maintain competition-for-excellence principle
- Contribute to strengthening the ERA
  - **Widening Fellowships** pilot 2018-2020 (to be evaluated in 2020/2021)
  - **Seal of Excellence**
  - Increase the **funding** per fellow in the new MSC **Synergies** Action
  - Network of MSCA **NCPs** / NCP Academy



# Internal coherence and external synergies

- **Synergies with other parts of Horizon Europe**
  - Linking with global challenges (missions, partnerships) and open innovation (EIT-KICs). Clustering.
  - Facilitating access to innovation/entrepreneurial activities. Training.
  - Strengthening the ERA
- **Synergies with other EU programmes**
  - Structural Funds
  - Education policies. Teaching. European Universities.

# Timing of further development (indicative)

## *Strategic Plan > Work Programme*

April	Partial <b>adoption</b> Horizon Europe legal base
May-June	Shadow Programme Committee meetings
June-Sept	<b>Public consultation</b> on Strategic Plan online
24-26 Sept	EU R&I Days
Oct	Consultation of R&I umbrella organisations
Oct-Nov	Shadow Programme Committee meetings
Dec/early 2020	Adoption of the Strategic Plan implementing act
Spring 2020	Elaboration first Horizon Europe Work Progr.
Early autumn 2020	Adoption of the Work Programme



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24, 25 and 26 September 2019

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***"You cannot hope to build a better world  
without improving the individuals"***

*Marie Skłodowska-Curie*

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