What is ERC?
ERC Information Day
24th Dec 2020

TÜBİTAK

erc

European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

ERC 101: What is ERC? General Information Day

24 December 2020

Aslı VURAL
Dr. Derya DÖNERTAŞ
ERC National Contact Points

TÜBİTAK
International Cooperation Department

Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)

17 %

Excellent Science (24.4 B)

- European Research Council (13.1 B €)
- Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (6.1 B €)
- Future and Emerging Technologies (2.7 B €)
- Research Infrastructure (2.5 B €)

Industrial Leadership (17 B €)

- LEIT = Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies
  - ICT
  - Nano, new materials
  - Biotechnology
  - Space
- Access to Risk Finance (2.9 B €)
- Innovation in SMEs (0.6 B €)

Societal Challenges (29.7 B €)

- Health (7.5 B €)
- Food (3.9 B €)
- Energy (6 B €)
- Transport (6.3 B €)
- Climate (3B €)
- Inclusive Societies (1.3B €)
- Security (1.7B €)

Spreading Excellence (0.8 B€)

Science with and for Society (0.5 B€)

EIT (2.7 B€) | JRC (1.9 B€) | EURATOM (1.6 B€)

Horizon Europe (2021-2027)

Pillar 1
Excellent Science

- European Research Council
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Research Infrastructures

Pillar 2
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Joint Research Centre

Pillar 3
Innovative Europe

- European Innovation Council
- European innovation ecosystems
- European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area

- Widening participation and spreading excellence
- Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

Objectives and Principles of ERC

An autonomous pan-European funding body set up by the EU in 2007 **led by scientists** to encourage the highest **quality research** in Europe through competitive funding of **frontier projects**

ERC encourages proposals of a **multi- or interdisciplinary** nature which cross the boundaries between different fields of research, pioneering proposals addressing **new and emerging fields** of research or proposals introducing **unconventional, innovative approaches** and **scientific inventions**.

Principles of the ERC

Scientific Excellence

- **High risk/High gain**
- **Any field of research**
- **1 Principle Investigator, 1 Host Institution**
- **Portable (best** settings to foster **creativity)**
- **100% of the total eligible direct costs** of research

A Success Story over 14 years

More than 9,500 projects have been selected for funding

Over 150,000 articles published in scientific journals were reported so far. Over 6,100 articles are among the top 1% highly cited

Over 70,000 postdocs, PhD students and other staff working in research teams

748 universities and 74 nationalities

ERC grantees have won prestigious prizes, including 7 Nobel Prizes, 4 Fields Medals, 5 Wolf Prize and more

More than 70-80% of completed projects assessed by an independent study made scientific breakthroughs or major advances

Why would I apply to the ERC?

ERC offers selective and generous grants, independence, recognition & visibility

- Work on any research topic: **completely bottom-up**
- Gain **financial autonomy** for 5 years
- Attract **top team members and collaborators** (EU and non-EU)
- Negotiate the **best work conditions** with the host institution
- **Portability of grants**
- **Attract additional funding and gain recognition:** ERC is a quality label

ERC Funding Schemes

Starting

2-7 years after PhD

Max € 2.5 M
(€ 1.5 M + € 1M)
Max 5 Years

at least 50% time commitment

Consolidator

7-12 years after PhD

Max € 3 M
(€ 2 M + € 1M)
Max 5 Years

at least 40% time commitment

Advanced

significant research achievements in the **last 10 years**

Max € 3.5 M
(€ 2.5 M + € 1M)
Max 5 Years

at least 30% time commitment

Synergy

2 - 4 researchers

Max € 14 M
(€ 10 M + € 4M)
Max 6 Years

at least 30% time commitment

Proof of Concept

bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation

up to **€150,000 for up to 18 months** for ERC grant holders

Calculation of Eligibility Window for 2021 calls

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced or Synergy Grant
Specific Eligibility Criteria	Principal Investigator has been awarded his/her first PhD >2 and ≤ 7 years prior to 1 Jan 2021 For 2021 calls: From 1st Jan 2014 to 31st Dec 2018	Principal Investigator has been awarded his/her first PhD >7 and ≤ 12 years prior to 1 Jan 2021 For 2021 calls: From 1st Jan 2009 to 31st Dec 2013	-

Extention of the eligibility time window

For career breaks and unconventinal careers

- **Maternity** (extention by at least **18 months** for each child born before or after PhD)
- **Paternity**
- **Long-term illness** (**over 90 days** for the PI or a close family member (child, spouse etc))
- **Clinical training or national service**

2021 ERC Call Calendar – unofficial

	Starting Grant	*Consolidator Grant*	*Advanced Grant*
Call identifier	**ERC-2021-StG**	**ERC-2021-CoG**	**ERC-2021-AdG**
Call Opens	**tbc**	**tbc**	**tbc**
Call closes (cut-off dates for PoC)	09/03/2021	20/04/2021	31/08/2021

The New ERC Evaluation Panels

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

Life Sciences

LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures and Functions

LS2 Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems

LS3 Cellular, Developmental and Regenerative Biology

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 & 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

https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_Panel_structure_2021_2022.pdf

ERC Evaluation Panels

- **Panel members**: typically 375 / call (SyG:~90)
  - High-level scientists
  - Recruited by Scientific Council from all over the world: ~14% from outside Europe
  - About 12-16 members plus a chair person

- **Remote Referees**: typically 2000 / call
  - Evaluate only a small number of proposals
  - Similar to normal practise in peer-reviewed journals

ERC Evaluation criteria

Evaluation of scientific excellence at two levels:

- Quality of the Research Project
  - Ground-breaking nature
  - Potential impact
  - Scientific Approach
- Quality of the Principal Investigator
  - Intellectual capacity
  - Creativity
  - Commitment

Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay

ERC Evaluation Procedure

Submission of full proposals (B1 and B2)

Eligibility check

Step 1 evaluation of the proposal (B1) by at least 3 peer reviewers

1st Panel meeting

Proposals Rejected
C **or B*

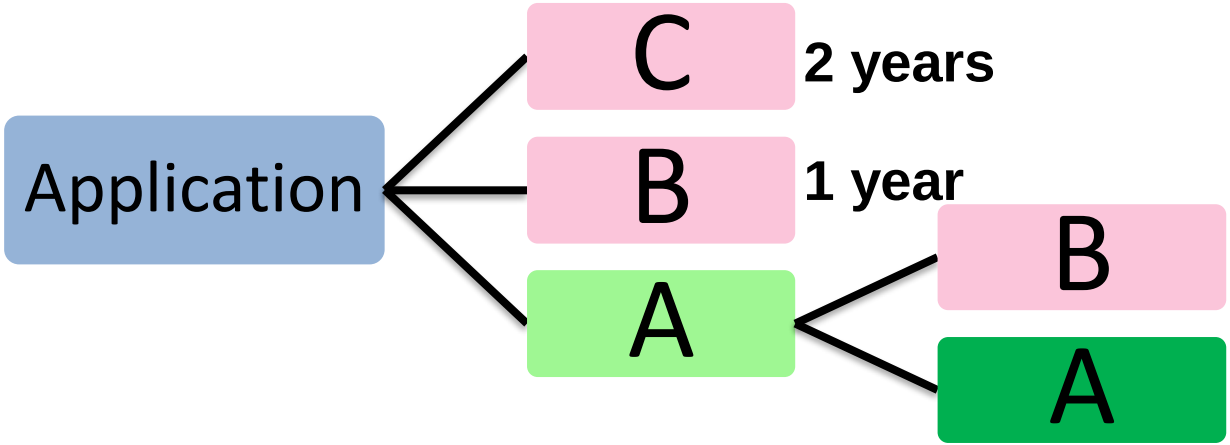
Proposals retained
A

Individual assessment of full proposal (B1 and B2) by panel members & referees

2nd Panel meeting + Interview

Ranked list of proposals (scores A or B)

Restrictions on submission of proposals



Time related considerations for your application:

1. **PhD year**
2. **CV and track Record**
3. **The nature of the project**
4. **Is your project high risk/high gain? Frontier research?**

Typical reasons for rejection

Source: ERCEA

Research Project

- Scope: Too narrow ←→ too broad/unfocussed
- Incremental research
- Collaborative project, several PIs
- Work plan not detailed enough/unclear
- Insufficient risk management

Principle Investigator (PI)

- Insufficient track-record
- Insufficient (potential for) independence

Before Redressing: see what you could you have done/explained/ presented better before blaming the process!

- Differing scientific opinion is not a motivation for redress
- An obvious mistake however might result in a re-evaluation

Application forms

Administrative forms (Part A)

1 – General information
2 – Administrative data of participating organisations
3 – Budget
4 – Ethics
5 – Call specific questions

Annexes

1 – HI Statement of Support
2 – PhD Certificate (for StG and CoG)
3 – Documentation for requests for eligibility extensions
4 – Documentation for ethical issues

Part B1 (submitted as pdf)

Text box - Cross-panel explanation

a – Extended synopsis	5 pages
b – Curriculum vitae	2 pages
c – Track-record	2 pages
Appendix – Funding ID	no page limit

Part B2 (submitted as pdf)

Scientific proposal 15 pages
a – State-of-the-art and objectives
b – Methodology
c – Resources

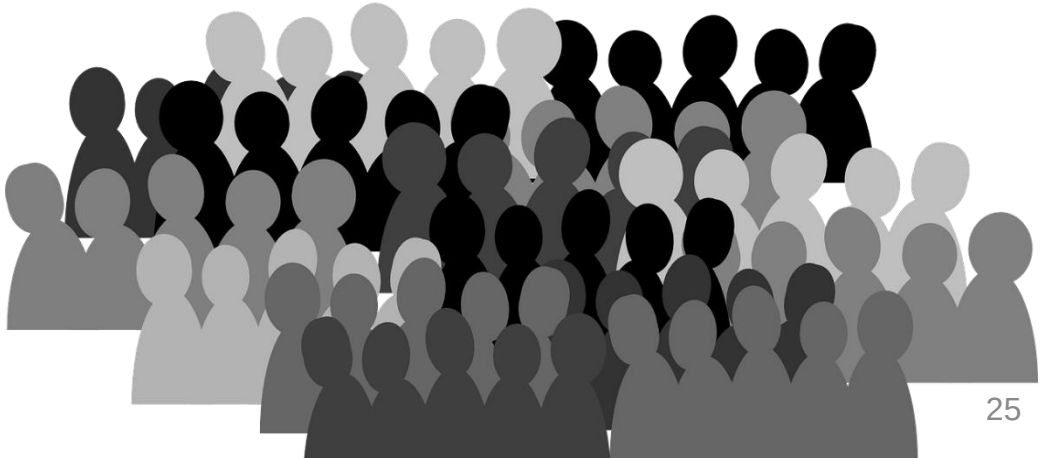
Is my CV and project idea competitive enough for the ERC?

The Profile of a Competitive ERC PI

A competitive **Starting Grant** Principal Investigator must have already shown the potential for research independence and evidence of maturity, for example by having produced **at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor.**

A competitive **Consolidator Grant** Principal Investigator must have already shown research independence and evidence of maturity, for example by having produced **several important publications as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor.**

A competitive **Advanced Grant** Principal Investigator must have already shown a record which identifies them as an exceptional leader in terms of originality and significance of their research contributions. ERC Advanced Grant Principal Investigators are expected to be active researchers and to have a **track record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years** which must be presented in the application.



ERC Success Stories

Prof. Thorsten Quandt

He has a particular interest in digital games, interactive media and online journalism. He is particularly interested in virtual reality and augmented reality. With his ERC project he aims to improve the lives of patients in hospitals, for example people that are paralysed. The idea is to give these patients VR devices so that they will feel like they are in a different environment.

Prof. Valeria Nicolosi

Her interdisciplinary research focuses on low-dimensional nanomaterials, including graphene and their usage for solutions for energy storage. Thanks to her research the lifetime of a battery about 5000 times increased. This type of technology of course will be applicable to a wide range of energy storage. Storing energy from the wind, from the sun, from the sea, from waves, as well as powering up our laptops and our smartphones more efficiently are some of the possible applications

Prof. Magdalena Krol

Since 2006 Professor Król and her team have been investigating canine mammary cancer with particular focus on cancer metastasis and tumour microenvironment. Now she develops innovative cell-based method of drug delivery to solid tumours. Her discoveries about interactions between immune cells and cancer cells may one day revolutionise the treatment of cancer.

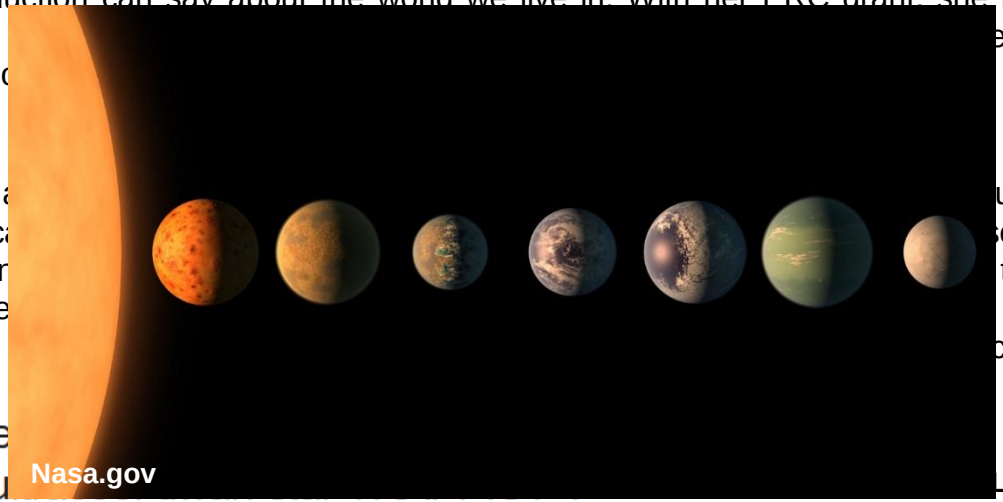
ERC Success Stories

Dr. Annaya Kabir

Passionate about music, dance, film, the visual arts, academic discourse, and literature, she studies what such forms of cultural production can say about the world we live in. With her ERC grant, she leads research on Afro-diasporic rhythm ed dance practices and their relation to mo

Dr. Virpi

She is interested in a ulations, looking at evolutionary, ecologica es on senescence patterns of the Asian to address ageing mechanisms. Her late play to ensure the survival of the calves, communities across the world.



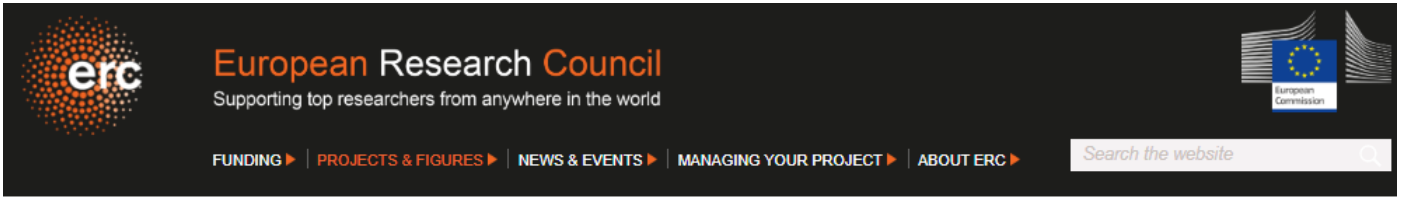
Seven te
nearby u

LOOS project: searching for habitable planets amenable for biosignatures detection around the nearest ultra-cool stars (2013-StG)

Michaël Gillon, Amaury H. M. J. Triaud, Brice-Olivier Demory, Emmanuël Jehin, Eric Agol, Katherine M. Deck, Susan M. Lederer, Julien de Wit, Artem Burdanov, James G. Ingalls, Emeline Bolmont, Jeremy Leconte, Sean N. Raymond, Franck Selsis, Martin Turbet, Khalid Barkaoui, Adam Burgasser, Matthew R. Burleigh, Sean J. Carey, Aleksander Chaushev, Chris M. Copperwheat, Laetitia Delrez, Catarina S. Fernandes, Daniel L. Holdsworth, Enrico J. Kotze + *et al.*

ERC Success Stories

https://erc.europa.eu/projects-figures/erc-funded-projects



Home » Projects & figures » ERC Funded Projects

ERC FUNDED PROJECTS

Search in ERC Funded Projects

FILTER

- FUNDING SCHEME
- CALL YEAR
- RESEARCH DOMAIN
- COUNTRY OF HOST INSTITUTION

Reset

The ERC operates according to a "curiosity-driven", or "bottom-up", approach, allowing researchers to identify new opportunities in any field of research. Accordingly the portfolio ERC funded projects spans a wide range of topics and research questions.

Since 2007, more than 9,000 projects have been selected to receive ERC funding throughout the EU Member States and the associated countries.

Use the search facility to quickly and easily find examples of ERC funded projects.

HOW CAN YOU SEARCH?

Projects can be filtered according to funding scheme, call year, panel and/or country of host institution.

FILTER

FUNDING SCHEME

- Starting Grant (StG) (4254)
- Consolidator Grant (CoG) (1909)
- Advanced Grant (AdG) (2862)
- Proof of Concept (PoC) (964)
- Synergy Grants (SyG) (51)

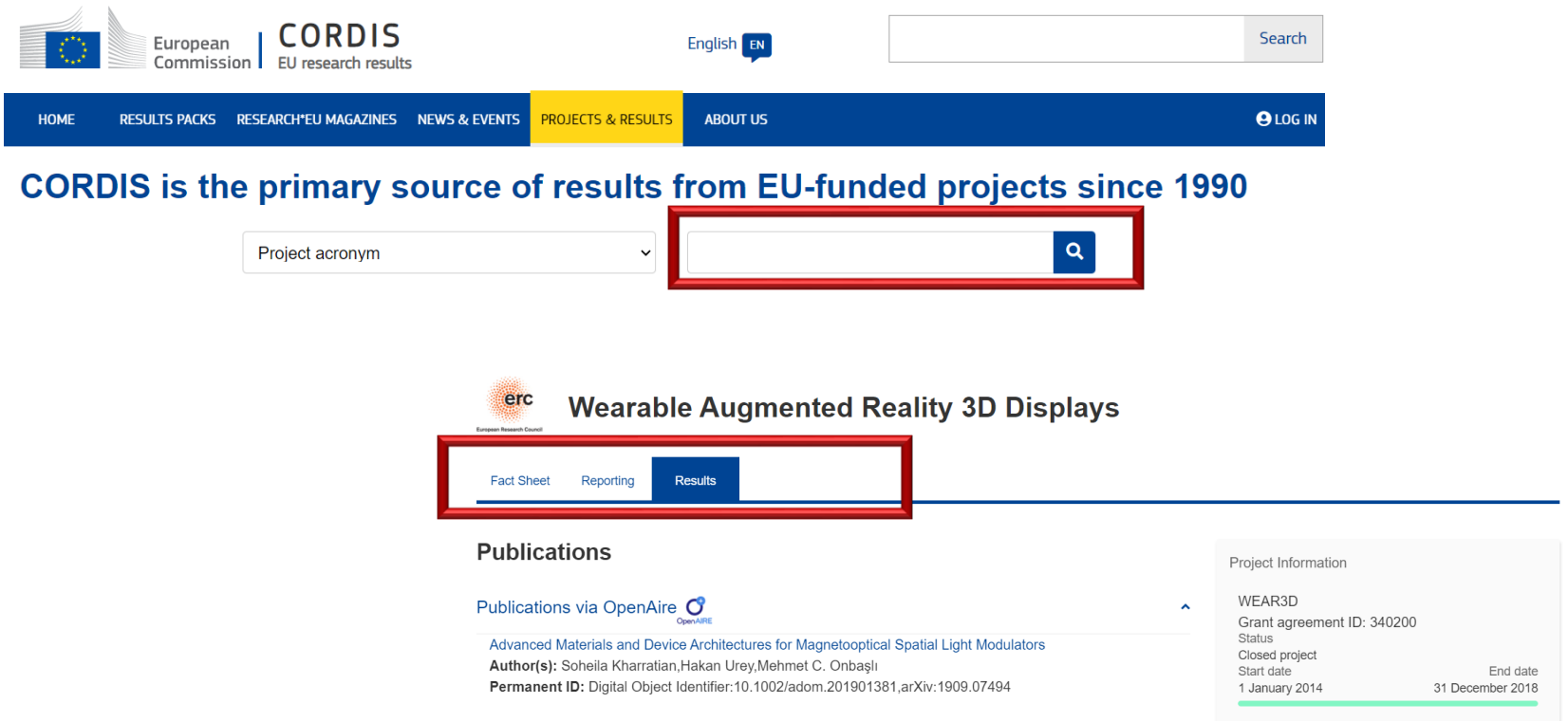
CALL YEAR

- 2007 (305)
- 2008 (284)
- 2009 (492)
- 2010 (707)
- 2011 (838)
- 2012 (957)
- 2013 (985)
- 2014 (1068)
- 2015 (1089)
- 2016 (1095)
- 2017 (1165)
- 2018 (1047)
- 2019 (34)

RESEARCH DOMAIN

- **(PE) Physical Sciences & Engineering (4082)**
  - PE1 (407)
  - PE2 (480)
  - PE3 (435)
  - PE4 (379)
  - PE5 (485)
  - PE6 (475)
  - PE7 (335)
  - PE8 (435)
  - PE9 (312)
  - PE10 (339)
- **(LS) Life Sciences (3079)**
  - LS1 (328)
  - LS2 (320)
  - LS3 (292)
  - LS4 (353)
  - LS5 (425)
  - LS6 (317)
  - LS7 (467)
  - LS8 (338)
  - LS9 (239)
- **(SH) Social Sciences & Humanities (1864)**
  - SH1 (281)
  - SH2 (391)
  - SH3 (233)
  - SH4 (386)
  - SH5 (265)
  - SH6 (308)

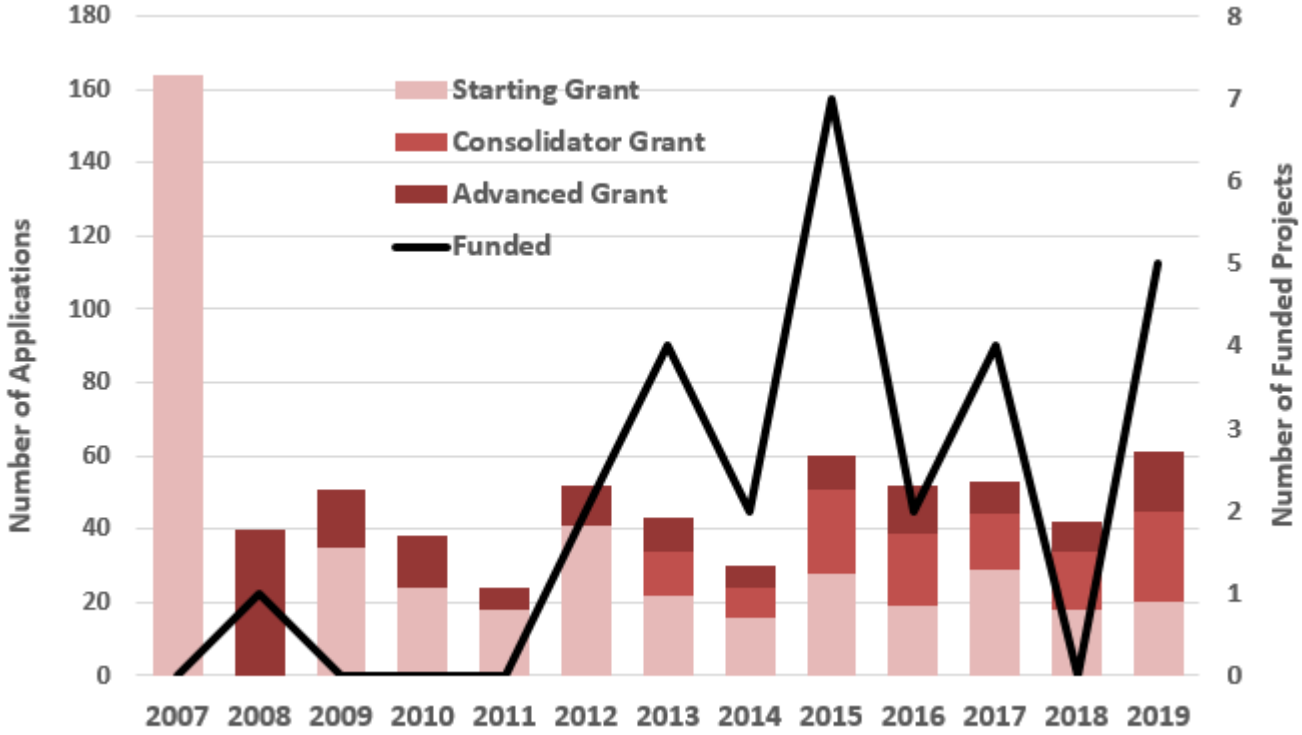
https://cordis.europa.eu/projects/en



ERC and Turkey

Turkey's Performance in ERC Calls

2007-2019: 710 Applications* ve 26 * funded projects



*Turkey is the address at the time of the application (excluding 1 grant in transfered to Turkey in 2019-StG call)

Host Institutions in Turkey

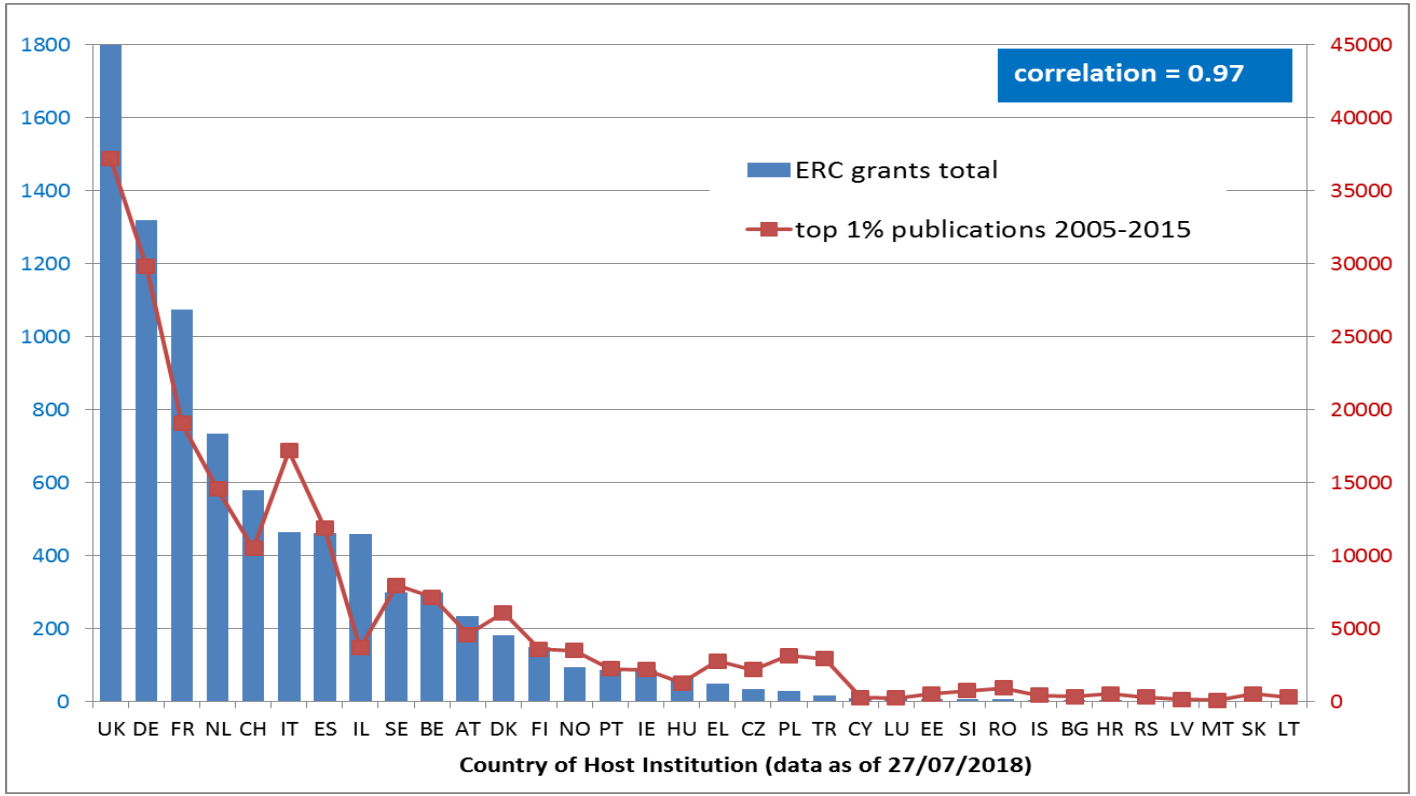
Host Institutions in Turkey*				
	Starting Grants	Consolidator Grants	Advanced Grants	Total
Koç University	6	1	1	8
Bilkent University	4	2	-	6
Middle East Technical University	1	2	-	3
İstanbul Bilgi University	-	-	1	1
Sabancı University	-	1	-	1
Kadir Has University	1	-	-	1

PoC projects: 4

* ERC website (including ERC-2020-StG call results)

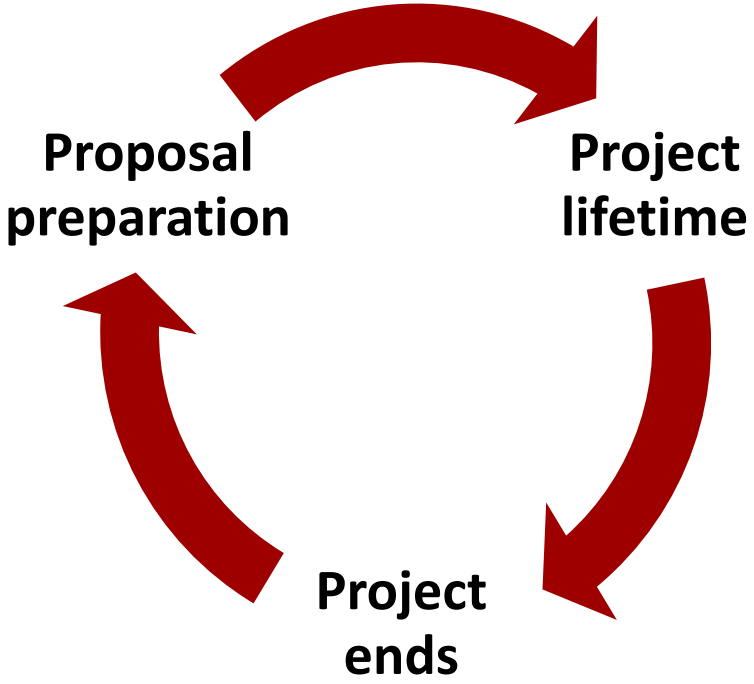
ERC Funded Projects and Correlation With Publications

Turkey's potential in ERC Programme



Src: ERC

TÜBİTAK supports



Support from your ERC National Contact Points

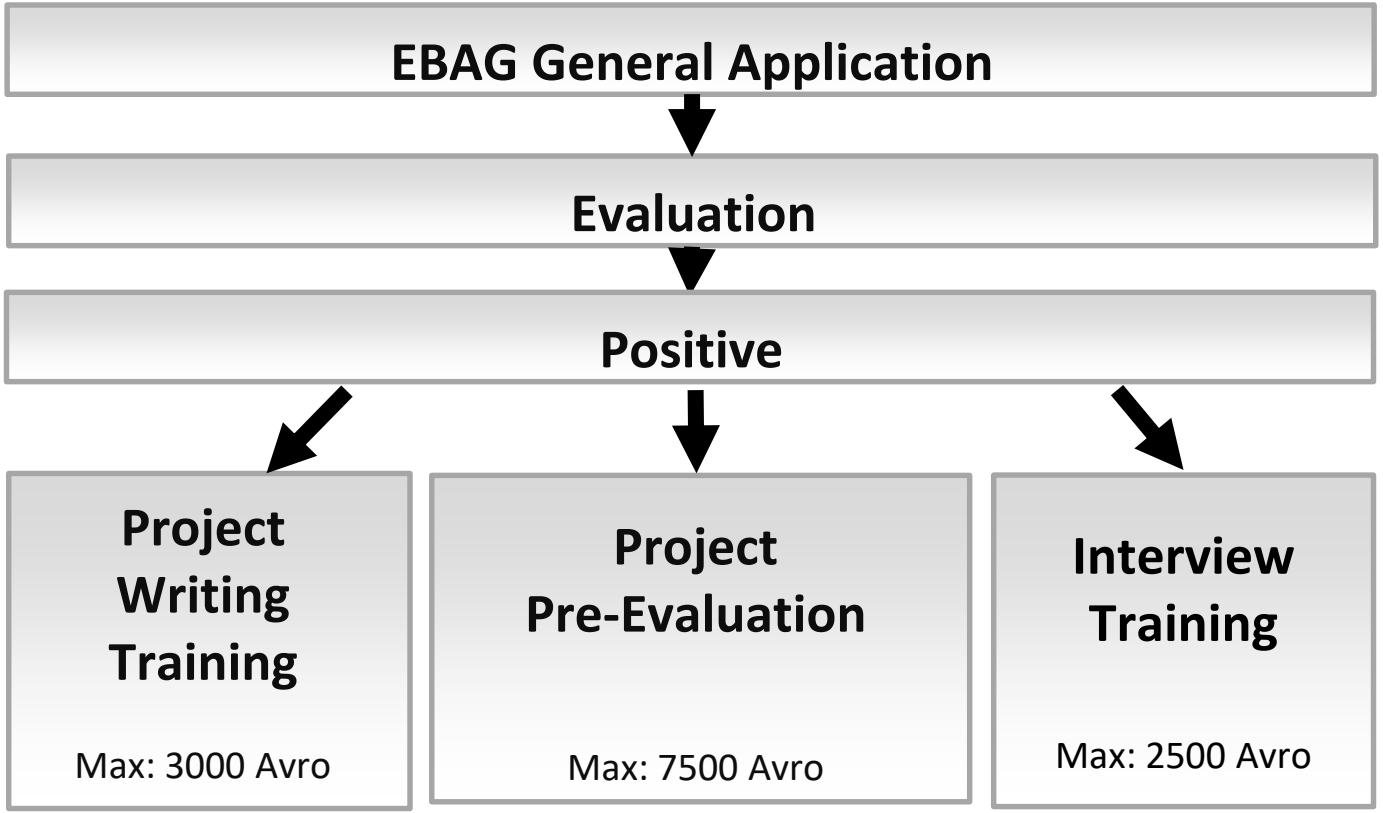
Bridge between you and ERC

Guidance in proposal writing

Information on Host Institutions in Turkey

Pre-evaluation support of your proposal

3 EBAG Supports



Proposal Preparation → Unfunded but highly scored proposals → Funded ERC projects

TÜBİTAK Supports for ERC

TÜBİTAK ERC Above the threshold award

Score in the second evaluation step	Award
B	20,000 TL
A	25,000 TL
Reserve list	30,000 TL

TÜBİTAK BİDEB 2247 – B Programme

- To improve your ERC application
- You need to re-submit your proposal to ERC in 2 years

Score in the second evaluation step	Maximum Budget
B	500,000 TL
A	1,000,000 TL

Proposal Preparation → **Unfunded but highly scored proposals** → Funded ERC projects

TÜBİTAK Support and Award Programme

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Fatma DURAN
ERC Award Programmes
fatma.duran@tubitak.gov.tr

For Applications: http://destekler.h2020.org.tr/
For Information: https://ufuk2020.org.tr/en/supports-and-awards

www.ufuk2020.org.tr/en

HORIZON 2020

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Horizon 2020 Grants

European Technology Platforms

Horizon 2020 Calls

TÜBİTAK EU FP Supports and Awards

News/Announcements All

ERC 101: What is ERC? General Information Meeting
The first calls of the ERC under the scope of Horizon...

International Bilateral Cooperations

EUREKA

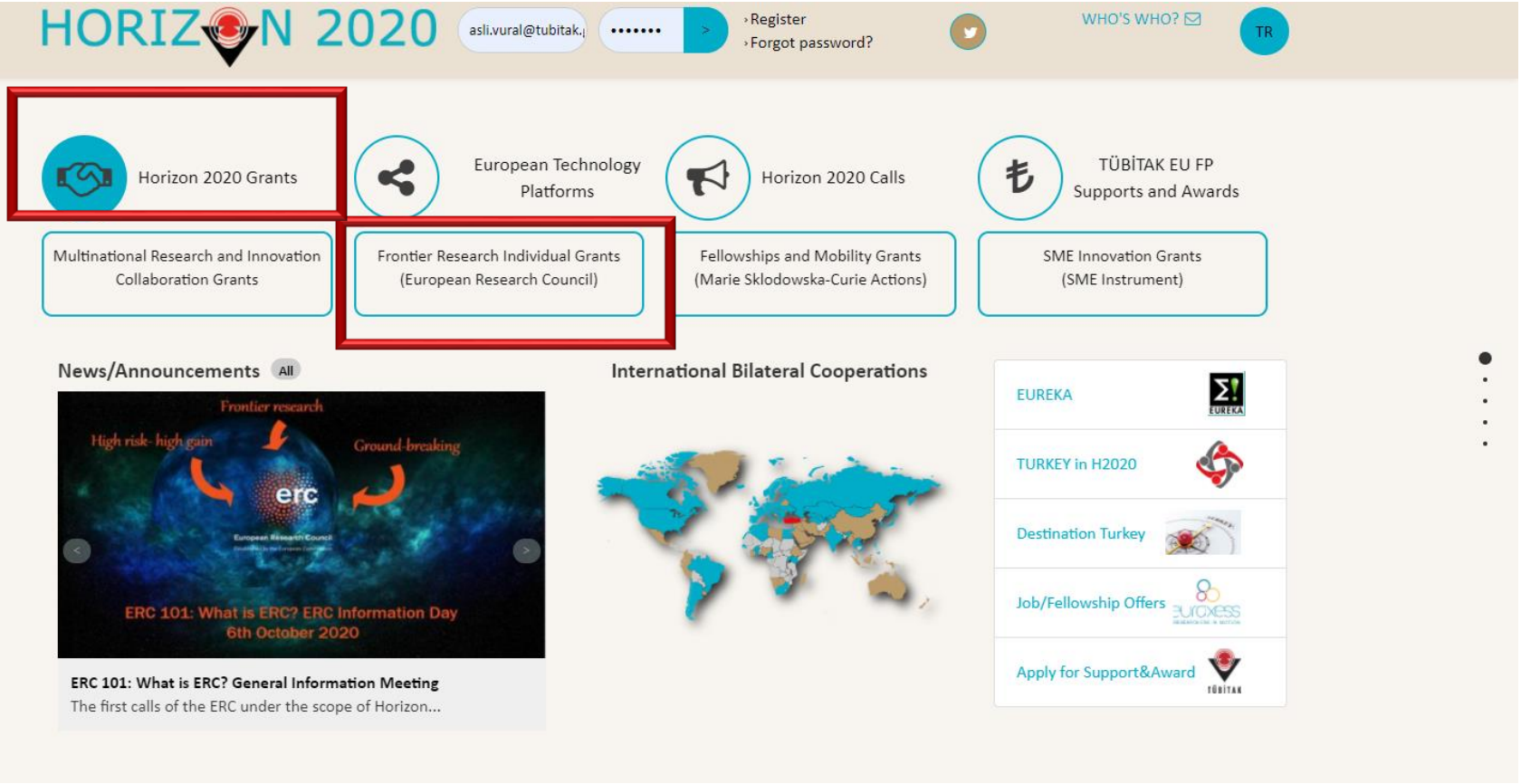
TURKEY in H2020

Destination Turkey

Job/Fellowship Offers

Apply for Support&Award

www.ufuk2020.org.tr



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European Technology Platforms

Horizon 2020 Calls

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European Research Council Funds

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ERC 101: What is ERC? General Information Meeting

Success Stories All

Mehmet Selim HANAY
Bilkent University
Starting Grant 2017
Proje : REM
Bütçe : 1.5 Million Euro
Süre : 2018-2023

Imaging Cells Electronically

National Contact Points

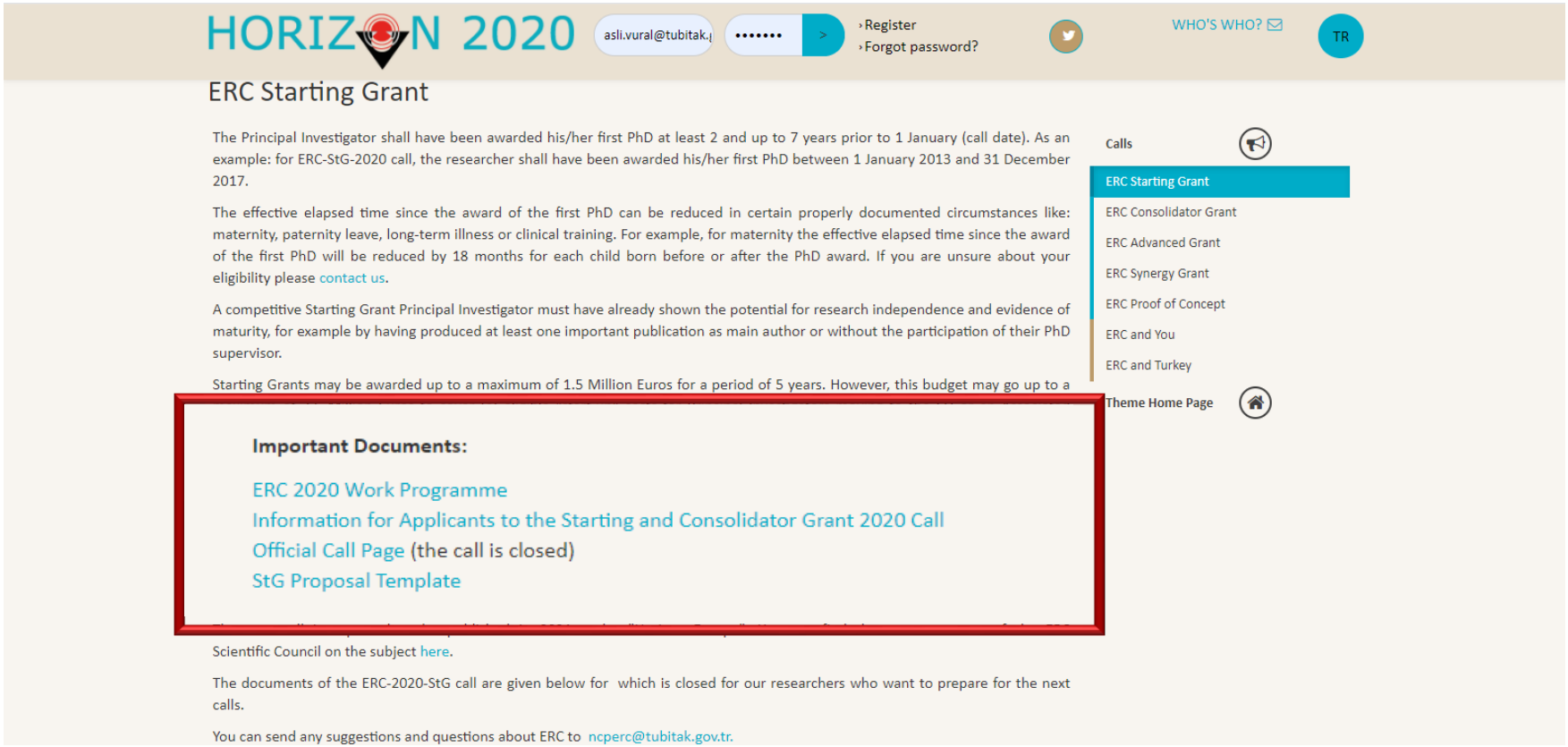
Calls

- ERC Starting Grant
- ERC Consolidator Grant
- ERC Advanced Grant
- ERC Synergy Grant
- ERC Proof of Concept
- ERC and You
- ERC and Turkey

European Research Council (ERC) was established at 2007 during FP7 to fund European frontier research. The only criteria for ERC funding is scientific excellence and all decisions are made by scientists for scientists.

- ERC funds one Principal Investigator leading a team of researchers (no need for partners)

Başvuru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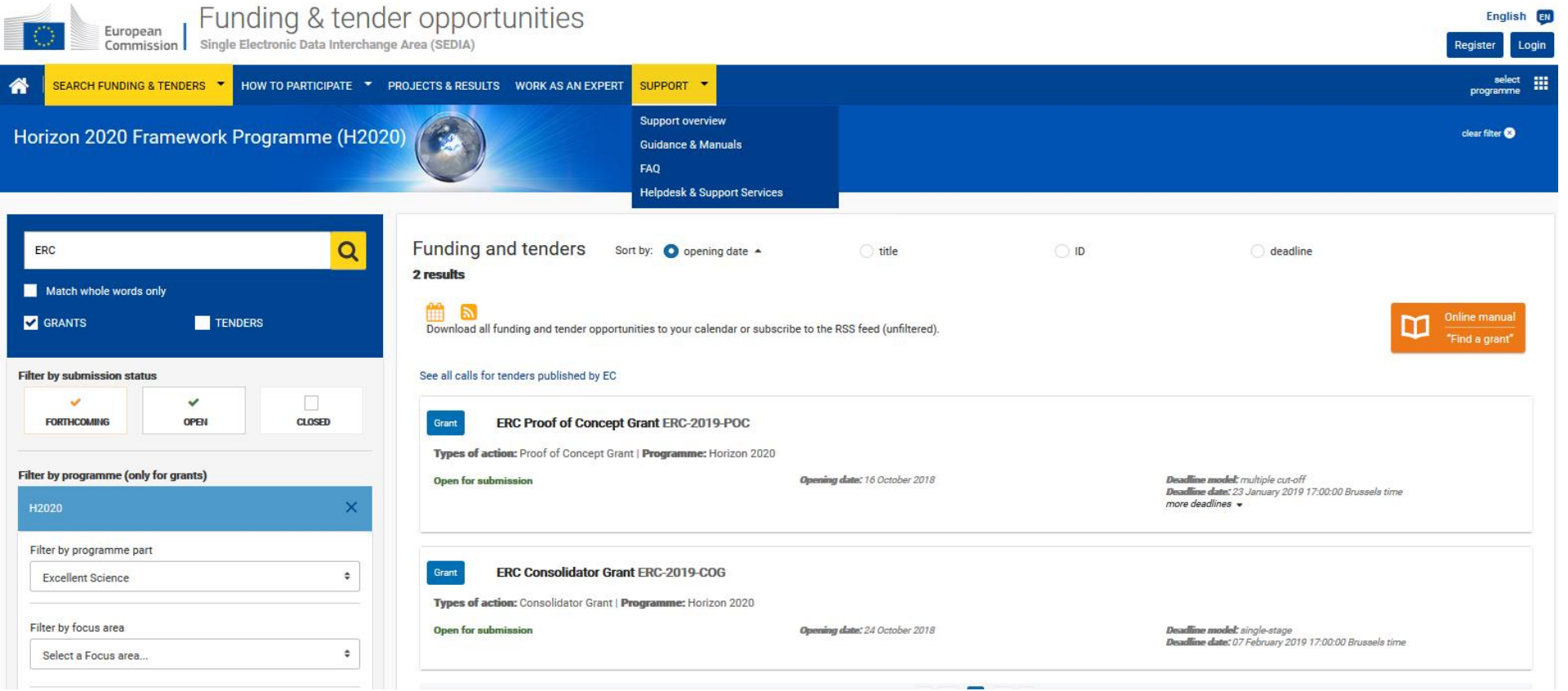
ERC Starting Grant
The Principal Investigator shall have been awarded his/her first PhD at least 2 and up to 7 years prior to 1 January (call date). As an example: for ERC-StG-2020 call, the researcher shall have been awarded his/her first PhD between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2017.
The effective elapsed time since the award of the first PhD can be reduced in certain properly documented circumstances like: maternity, paternity leave, long-term illness or clinical training. For example, for maternity the effective elapsed time since the award of the first PhD will be reduced by 18 months for each child born before or after the PhD award. If you are unsure about your eligibility please contact us.
A competitive Starting Grant Principal Investigator must have already shown the potential for research independence and evidence of maturity, for example by having produced at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor.
Starting Grants may be awarded up to a maximum of 1.5 Million Euros for a period of 5 years. However, this budget may go up to a
Calls
ERC Starting Grant
ERC Consolidator Grant
ERC Advanced Grant
ERC Synergy Grant
ERC Proof of Concept
ERC and You
ERC and Turkey
Theme Home Page
Important Documents:
ERC 2020 Work Programme
Information for Applicants to the Starting and Consolidator Grant 2020 Call
Official Call Page (the call is closed)
StG Proposal Template
Scientific Council on the subject here.
The documents of the ERC-2020-StG call are given below for which is closed for our researchers who want to prepare for the next calls.
You can send any suggestions and questions about ERC to ncperc@tubitak.gov.tr.

Application

https://erc.europa.eu/

Application

ERC CALLS



Questions to ask yourself as an applicant

- Am I internationally competitive as a researcher at my career stage and in my discipline?
- Am I able to work independently, and to manage a 5-year project with a substantial budget?
- Why is my proposed project important?
- Does it promise to go substantially beyond the state of the art?
- Why am I the best/only person to carry it out?
- Is it timely? (Why wasn't it done in the past? Is it feasible now?)
- What's the risk? Is it justified by a substantial potential gain? Do I have a plan for managing the risk?

For a successful proposal...

Funded projects in your research area

Compare your idea with the funded projects

Compare yourself with the PIs who are funded by ERC

Thank you

Aslı VURAL

Dr. Derya DÖNERTAŞ

ERC National Contact Points

TÜBİTAK EU Framework Programmes

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