

European Research Council (ERC)

	<u>ERC Starting Grant</u> (2 and ≤ 7 years after PhD)	<u>ERC Consolidator Grant</u> (7 and ≤ 12 years after PhD)	<u>ERC Advanced Grant</u>
<i>Profiles of ERC Principal Investigators (PIs)</i>	The PI should have already shown evidence of the potential for research independence, <u>for example</u> by having produced at least one important publication as main author or without the participation of their PhD supervisor.	The PI should have already shown evidence of research independence.	The section on ERC AdG will be updated as soon as the 2024 edition of the Info for Applicants is available.
	The PI is expected to include e.g. a list of up to ten research outputs that demonstrate how the applicant has advanced knowledge in their field with an emphasis on more recent achievements and a list of selected examples of significant peer recognition (<u>for example</u> , prizes). The applicant may include a short, factual explanation of the significance of the selected outputs, the applicant's role 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 additional information on career breaks, diverse career paths, and life events, as well as any particularly noteworthy contributions to the research community they have made other than research achievements and peer recognition and a short explanation of these contributions. The purpose of this section is to allow the panels to take a more rounded view of the applicant's career and achievements and to ensure that any additional responsibilities, commitments, and leadership roles that the applicants have taken on beyond their individual research activities are recognised and taken into account.		
<i>Evaluation of ERC PIs</i>	<p>- Intellectual capacity and creativity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > To what extent has/have the PI(s) demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research? > To what extent does/do the PI(s) provide evidence of creative and original thinking? > To what extent does/do the PI(s) have the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project? 		
<i>Evaluation of ERC proposals</i>	<p>- Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > To what extent does the proposed research address important challenges? > To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)? 		

Information and advice on ERC project proposals: Research and Transfer Services, EU Office

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	<p>- Scientific Approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > To what extent is the outlined scientific approach feasible bearing in mind the ground-breaking nature and ambition of the proposed research (based on the Extended Synopsis)? > To what extent do the Principal Investigators succeed in proposing a combination of scientific approaches that are crucial to address the scope and complexity of the research questions to be tackled? > To what extent are the proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project (based on the research proposal)? > To what extent are the proposed timescales, resources, and PI commitment adequate and properly justified (based on the research proposal)?
<p><i>Principles of the ERC</i></p>	<p>Research integrity: Any breach of research integrity by PIs, team members or beneficiaries may be sanctioned by measures such as the rejection of proposals from evaluation, requests for measures to be taken by the host institution, reduction of the grant and suspension or termination of grants.</p>
	<p>Ethics and Security: Every project funded by the ERC is subject to an ethics review process. The ethics review process is independent from the evaluation procedure and the evaluation panels do not have access to the ethics documents. ERC actions must comply with applicable security rules and in particular rules on the protection of classified information against unauthorised disclosure, including compliance with any relevant European Union and national law.</p>
	<p>Open science: The ERC is committed to the principle of open access to any published output of research, including in particular peer-reviewed articles and monographs. It also supports the basic principle of open access to research data and data related products such as computer code.</p>
	<p>Gender balance: Beneficiaries of ERC grants must take all measures to promote equal opportunities between men and women in the implementation of the action and aim for a gender balance at all levels of personnel assigned to the action, including at supervisory and managerial level, as set out in the Model Grant Agreement used for ERC actions. ERC PIs should also determine the relevance of integrating sex and gender analysis into their research.</p>
	<p>Communication: Outreach activities are a must triggering new collaborations and opportunities for the PIs and their teams, sharing the project and its results with the research community, the media, policy-makers, potential investors, funding agencies and the wider public.</p>