European Research Council (ERC)
In Horizon2020 Excellent Science (pillar I)

European Research Council (ERC) grants support individual researchers of any nationality and age who wish to pursue their frontier research in the 28 EU Member States or associated countries. The ERC encourages in particular proposals that cross disciplinary boundaries, pioneering ideas that address new and emerging fields and applications that introduce unconventional, innovative approaches. There are three ERC core funding schemes and two additional schemes.

- **Starting Grants**: starters (2-7 years after PhD) up to €2.0 Mio for 5 years
- **Consolidator Grants**: consolidators (7-12 years after PhD) up to €2.75 Mio for 5 years
- **Advanced Grants**: track-record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years up to €3.5 Mio for 5 years
- **Synergy Grants**: 2 – 4 Principal Investigators up to €15.0 Mio for 6 years
- **Proof-of-Concept**: bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation up to €150,000 for ERC grant holders

**Call 2014, likely submission deadlines**

- **Starting grants**: end of March 2014
- **Consolidator grants**: end of May 2014
- **Advanced grants**: end of October 2014
- **Proof of Concept grants** (for ERC grantees only): one call with two deadlines in 2014 – likely to close beginning of April 2014 and beginning of October 2014
- **No calls for Synergy grants in 2014**

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Online Sources of Information:

- ERC: http://erc.europa.eu/
- Academy of Finland’s web pages: http://www aka. eng ➔ Programmes and cooperation ➔ International ➔ European research area ➔ ERC
- EU Research and Innovation Programmes (EUTI): http://www.tekes.eu