Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)

The Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA) ensure excellent and innovative research training as well as attractive career and knowledge-exchange opportunities through cross-border and cross-sector mobility of researchers to best prepare them to face current and future societal challenges.

The MSCA are open to researchers and innovation staff, to universities, research institutions, research infrastructures, businesses, and other socio-economic actors from all countries, including third countries under certain conditions. Attention is paid to encourage a strong participation of industry, in particular SMEs, for the successful implementation and impact of the MSCA.

Mobility is a key requirement in the MSCA. Researchers receive funding on the condition that they move from one country to another to broaden or deepen their competences.

For the years 2014–2015, the calls for proposals will focus on:

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<th>Innovative Training Networks (ITN)</th>
<th>Individual Fellowships (IF)</th>
<th>Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)</th>
<th>Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND)</th>
<th>European Researchers’ Nights (NIGHT)</th>
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<td>The budget for the call:</td>
<td>405,18 m€ of which 25,5 m€ is allocated to EID and 30 m€ to EJD</td>
<td>240,5 m€ of which 29 m€ is allocated to Global Fellowships</td>
<td>70 m€ of which 30 m€ is allocated to Doctoral Programmes</td>
<td>8 m€</td>
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Special conditions:

**ITN:** The ITN supports joint research training and/or doctoral programmes, implemented by partnerships of universities, research institutions, research infrastructures, businesses, SMEs and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond. Partnerships may take the form of collaborative European Training Networks (ETN), European Industrial Doctorates (EID) or European Joint Doctorates (EJD).

ETNs must be created by at least three beneficiaries located in different EU Member States and/or Associated Countries.

EJDs must be created by at least three beneficiaries located in different EU and/or AC countries who are all entitled to award doctoral degrees.

In EID two beneficiaries is sufficient. Of these two one must be entitled to award doctoral degrees and the other must come from the non-academic sector, primarily enterprises.

Above the minimum, the participation of institutions from any country or organization is possible.
IF: Support is foreseen for individual, transnational fellowships for employment in EU Member States or Associated Countries, based on an application made jointly by the researcher and host organization in the academic or non-academic sector. Fellowships may be either European or Global Fellowships. Global Fellowships are based on a secondment to a third country and a mandatory 12-month return period to a European host.

Applicant must be an experienced researcher, i.e. be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time research experience.

RISE: promotes international and inter-sector collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges, and sharing of knowledge and ideas from research to market and vice versa for the advancement of science and development of innovation. Support is provided for the development of partnerships, joint research and/or innovation projects.

Participants shall be established in at least three different countries of which at least two are EU Member States or Associated Countries. If all participants are from the same sector – either only academic or only non-academic), at least one participant must be from a third country. Above the minimum, the participation of institutions from any country or organization is possible.

COFUND: Co-funding of new or existing doctoral programmes of fellowship programmes that are run at regional, national or international level. Support cannot be awarded to researchers who are already permanently employed at the host institution. Participants must be legal entities which manage doctoral programmes or fellowship programmes for researchers.

NIGHT: Support for events taking place during the European Researchers’ Night, last Friday of September annually. Activities focus on the general public, addressing people regardless of the level of their scientific background with special focus on pupils and students. Participant may be any legal entity in an EU or AC country.

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Online Sources of Information:

- MSCA Portal: http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/
- EU Research and Innovation Programmes: http://www.tekes.eu