

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) strongly contribute to excellent research, boosting jobs, growth and investment by equipping researchers with new knowledge and skills and providing them with an international as well as inter-sectoral exposure (including through academia-business collaboration), to fill the top positions of tomorrow.

ALL MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS AT A GLANCE

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions for individual researchers: MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Researchers holding a PhD carry out a research project in another country.
- European Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to researchers holding a PhD who wish to engage in R&I projects of 12-24 months by either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe (i.e. MS/AC). For researchers undertaking their fellowship in one of the so-called Widening Countries in Europe (countries with a relatively low research & innovation performance), the ERA Fellowships provide additional support.
- Global Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to researchers holding a PhD who wish to engage in R&I projects with organisations in a Third Country for 12-24 months, followed by a mandatory return phase of 12 months to a host organisation based in a MS/AC.
- An additional period of up to six months at the end of the project can be awarded to researchers who will spend that period in a non-academic organisation (for instance an SME) established in a MS/AC.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions for research institutions and enterprises:

- **Doctoral Networks:** Networks of organisations build together a training programme for doctoral students in the context of an international and intersectoral research project. The researchers should be offered the whole range of career perspectives, relevant in the respective research field.
- Staff Exchanges: Supports international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral (academic & non-academic) collaboration through research and innovation staff exchanges and networking activities. Exchanges are possible for researchers in all career stages and can include administrative, managerial and technical staff.
- MSCA and Citizens: Organisation of the European Researchers' Night and implementation of the Researchers at School initiative, bringing researchers closer to the general public and increasing awareness of research and innovation activities.
- Co-funding of regional, national and international Programmes (COFUND): Co-funding of doctoral and postdoctoral programmes to support researcher's international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary research training.



MAIN PRINCIPLES OF MSCA

Excellence in various aspects: from the individual fellows and the fostered collaborations through research and methodologies to the training, supervision and career guidance provided within the projects.

- **Mobility:** researchers who receive funding have to move from one country to another to acquire new knowledge, skills and competences, and develop their research career. Researchers are also strongly encouraged to move between sectors and disciplines.
- Bottom-up: the MSCA are open to all domains of research and innovation, chosen freely by the applicants.
- **Open to the world:** international cooperation is particularly encouraged to set-up strategic collaborations worldwide, attract foreign talents to Europe and provide European researchers with access to unique expertise, facilities, testing environments or data available only outside Europe.
- Recruitment, working/employment conditions and inclusiveness: The principles of the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers promoting open, merit-based and transparent recruitment and attractive working and employment conditions are a cornerstone of the MSCA and all funded host organisations must put effort into applying them. The MSCA endorse Open Science and Responsible Research and Innovation and pay particular attention to equal opportunities and inclusiveness as well as diversity. MSCA projects are also encouraged to facilitate access by researchers at risk.

UPCOMING CALLS AND DEADLINES

Doctoral Networks	29 May 2024 – 27 November 2024 28 May 2025 – 25 November 2025
Postdoctoral Fellowships	23 April 2024 – 11 September 2024 09 April 2025 – 10 September 2025
Staff Exchanges	19 September 2024 – 5 February 2025 27 March 2025 – 08 October 2025
COFUND	23 April 2024 – 26 September 2024 23 January 2025 – 24 June 2025

FUNDING

The contribution of the European Commission covers **part of the costs** for the implementation of the project as well as the activities of the recruited researchers (Postdoctoral Fellowships, Doctoral Networks, COFUND) or a top-up for seconded researchers (Staff Exchanges), respectively.

CONTACT

Website: <u>www.ffg.at/europa/heu/msca</u> Mail: <u>marie.curie@ffg.at</u> Phone: +43 (0)5 7755-4111

We kindly ask researchers from Austrian universities and non-university research institutions to contact their research services for basic counselling (for universities: <u>www.forschungsservice.at</u>).

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