



Brussels  
EAC.C.2/TK

## NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF EU DELEGATIONS

**Subject: First Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) calls announced under the Horizon Europe 2021-2027 programme**

We would like to inform you that the European Commission announced the first calls of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) under the newly adopted Horizon Europe 2021-2022 work programme.

MSCA is the EU's main funding programme for doctoral education and postdoctoral training. With an allocated budget of €6.6 billion for the years 2021-27, the MSCA will support researchers from all over the world, at all stages of their careers and in all disciplines. The MSCA will also benefit institutions by supporting excellent collaborative research and innovation projects, boosting their global attractiveness and visibility and fostering cooperation beyond academia, including with business.

Under Horizon Europe, we intend to reinforce the already substantial international outreach of MSCA (more than 50% of all participations from third countries' organisations in Horizon 2020; 37% of all researchers involved being nationals from non-EU countries), notably through more targeted and coordinated promotion activities, in liaison with EU Delegations.

The MSCA will also place stronger emphasis on inter-sectoral collaboration, notably between academia and business as well as on effective supervision and career guidance. Furthermore, the MSCA will promote sustainable behaviours, research activities and management in line with the European Green Deal, through the MSCA Green Charter.

The newly announced MSCA calls for 2021 will provide around €822 million covering the following five main actions:

- **MSCA Doctoral Networks** – implement doctoral programmes, training doctoral candidates from all over the world, in academia and beyond. The 2021 call, with a budget of €402.95 million, opened on 22 June and closes on 16 November 2021.
- **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships** – enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD and wishing to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral exposure. The funding will be available to researchers ready to pursue research and innovation projects in Europe and

worldwide, including in the non-academic sector. The 2021 call, with a budget of €242 million, opened on 22 June and closes on 12 October 2021.

- **MSCA Staff Exchanges** – develop international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary sustainable collaboration in research and innovation through exchanging staff. The scheme helps turn ideas into innovative products, services or processes. The 2021 call, with a budget of €72.5 million, will open on 7 October and will close on 9 March 2022.
- **MSCA COFUND** – co-finances new or existing doctoral programmes and postdoctoral fellowship schemes in EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries with the aim of spreading best practices of the MSCA. This includes international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary research training, as well as international and cross-sectoral mobility of researchers at all stages of their career. The 2021 call, with a budget of €89 million, will open on 12 October 2021 and will close on 10 February 2022.
- **MSCA and Citizens** – brings research closer to students, families and the public at large mainly through the European Researchers' Night, the largest science communication event in Europe. The action increases awareness of the impact of researchers' work on citizens' lives, society and economy, and boosts public recognition of science and research. It also aims to raise the interest of young people in research and scientific careers. The 2022 call, with a budget of €15.5 million, covers the 2022 and 2023 editions of the European Researchers' Night. It opened on 22 June with a deadline on 7 October 2021.

All the information about the new calls is available on the European Commission's Funding and Tender Opportunities Portal: <https://bit.ly/2UBwoiy>

If you have any question related to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions or would like to receive more details about the participation of individual countries and researchers and contact details at host institutions, please contact us via email at [EAC-MARIE-SKLODOWSKA-CURIE-ACTIONS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EAC-MARIE-SKLODOWSKA-CURIE-ACTIONS@ec.europa.eu).

You can follow us on our website and social media and use the attached leaflet or the materials available through the wiki below to promote the recently opened calls:

- Wiki: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/wikis/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=820019570>
- MSCA Website: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Marie.Curie.Actions>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MSCAActions>

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Annex: leaflet MSCA factsheet