



# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions in Horizon Europe

*EuNightCat.  
European Researchers Night  
Nit de la Recerca  
Universitats de l'eix*

25 November 2020

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Unit C2. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) key features

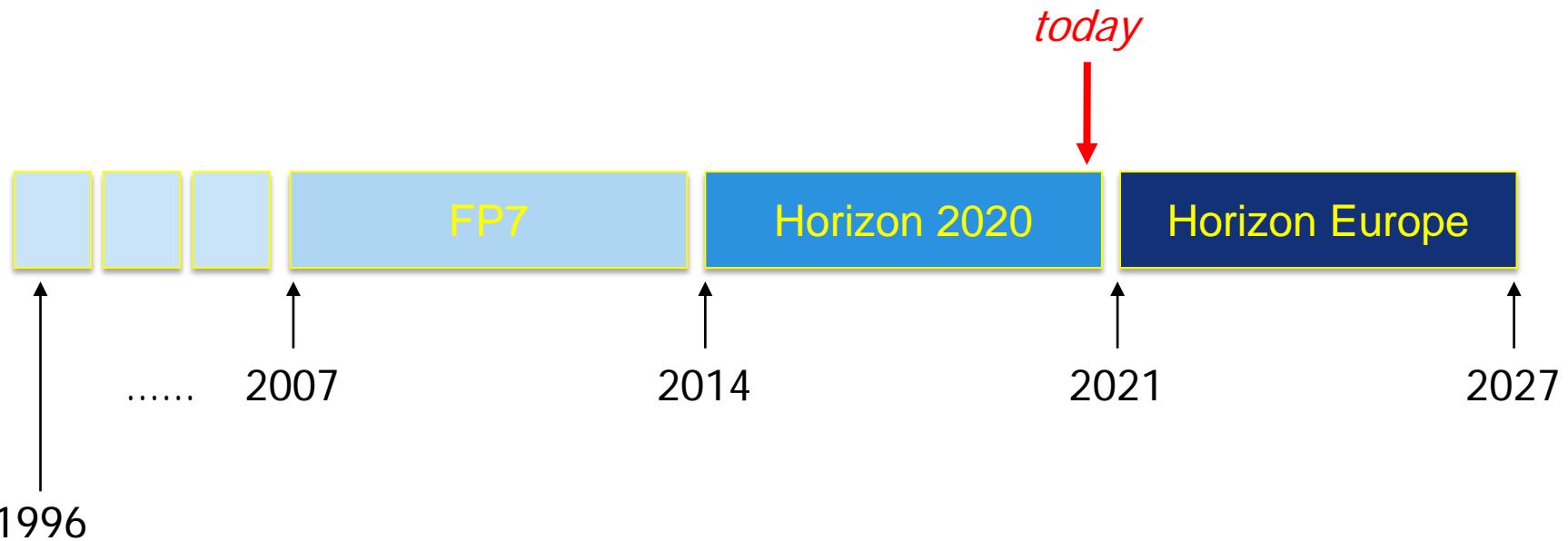
- **Support the mobility, training and career development** of researchers from **all over the world** through excellent doctorates, postdoctoral fellowships and collaborative projects
- Stimulating **international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary** cooperation.
- For researchers at **every stage** of their career
- Promotion of **attractive working and employment** conditions (financing rate of up to 100%, Charter and Code)
- Support excellent research in all domains (**bottom-up**)
- Open to all organisations. Participation of **non-academic sector** strongly encouraged, especially industry and SMEs
- Impacting **researcher careers, organisations, structures**



# MSCA achievements

- **10 Nobel Prize Winners** (Medicine, Chemistry, Physics and Economics) among the researchers funded
- **1 Oscar winner**
- MSCA researchers involved in **top-class discoveries** such as Higgs Boson at CERN and gravitational waves
- A winner of the 2019 EU Prize for **Women Innovators**
- MSCA accounts for more than half of all third countries participations to Horizon 2020.
- 37% of all researchers involved in MSCA are nationals from 140 different non-EU countries.

# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) (1996-2020)



Nearly 145 000 researchers  
supported by MSCA since 1996

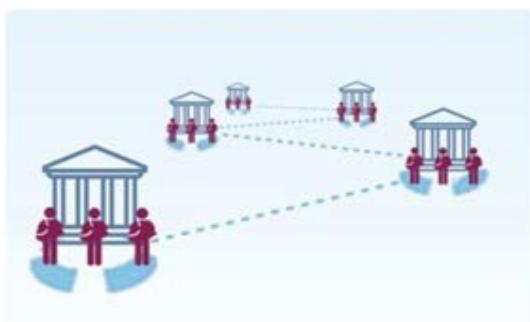
# MSCA in Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)



**ITN**  
Innovative  
Training Networks



**IF**  
Individual  
Fellowships



**RISE**  
Research and Innovation Staff  
Exchange

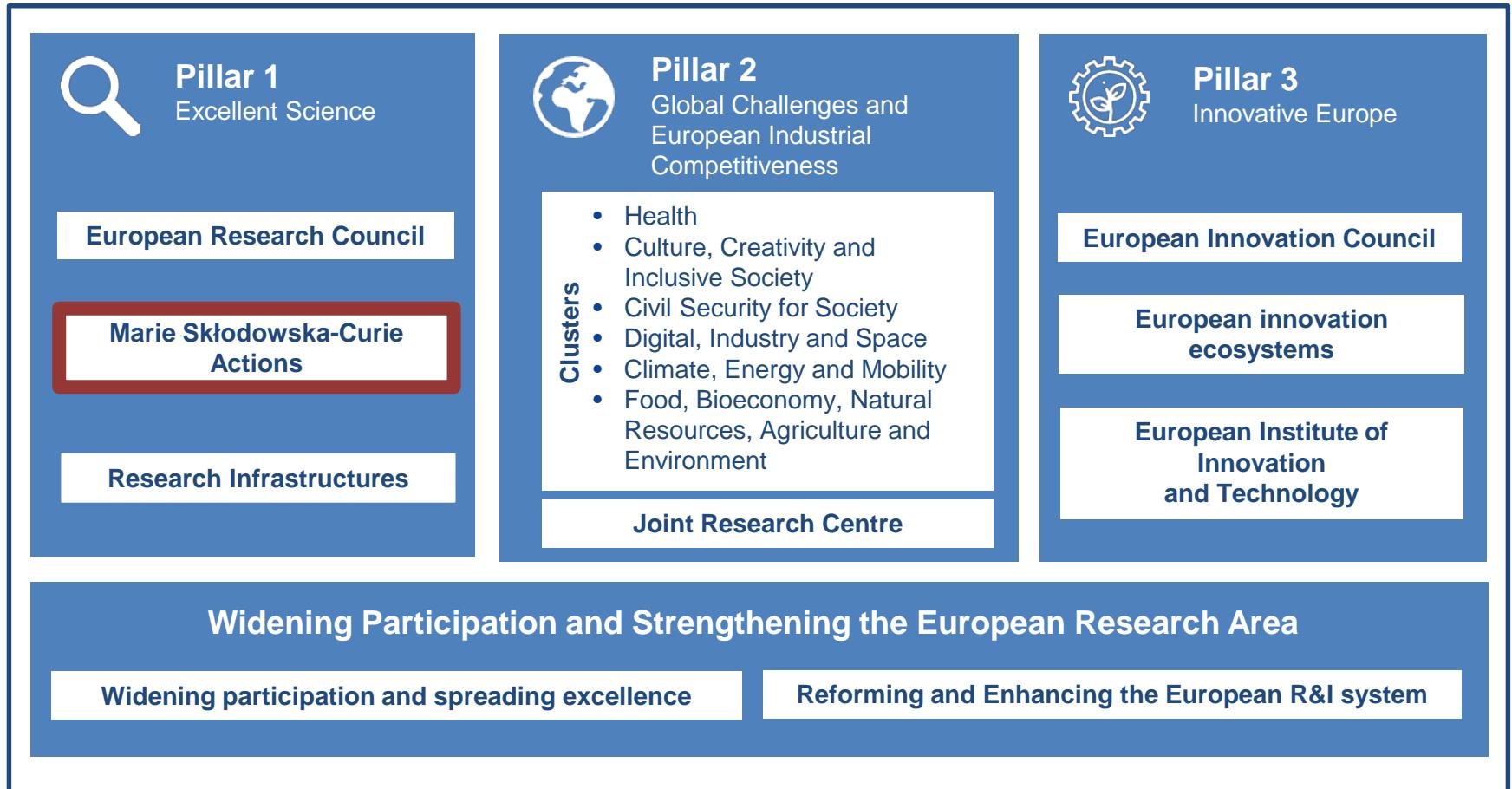


**COFUND**  
Co-Funding of Regional, National and  
International Programmes

+ European Researchers' Night

- 4 Main Actions
- 6.2 billion EUR
- Over 65,000 researchers
- Including 25,000 PhDs
- Over 1000 Doctoral networks

# Horizon Europe: Preliminary structure



**Excellent Science (Pillar 1):** reinforcing and extending the excellence of the Union's science base

# Horizon Europe. MSCA 2021-2027

Overall message: **continuation**



1. MSCA Doctoral Networks
2. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships
3. MSCA Staff Exchanges
4. MSCA COFUND
5. MSCA and Citizens

- networks training PhD candidates
- postdoctoral researchers
- any type of research(-related) staff
- co-funding for training programmes
- public outreach events

# MSCA Doctoral Networks



- One single action to implement innovative **doctoral programmes**, including joint and industrial degrees
  - ❖ **Industrial Doctorates**
    - ✓ Training in academia and industry
    - ✓ Joint supervision
  - ❖ **Joint Doctorates**
    - ✓ Joint collaborations leading to a joint/multiple doctoral degree
    - ✓ Joint selection and supervision
- Focus on **career development plan, supervision, training**: research and transferable skills
- **Consortia** apply:
  - **partnerships** of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors
  - at least **three independent legal entities**, each established in a different MS or AC; minimum of 1 beneficiary from a MS (on top of this minimum, any entity from any third country can join)
- **Target group**
  - **doctoral candidates**, i.e. researcher without a doctoral degree at the date of the recruitment; mandatory enrolment in a doctoral programme



# MSCA Doctoral Networks

- **Size**
  - Up to **360 person-months (standard)** + **180 additional person-months for joint or industrial doctorates (incentive)**
- **Duration**
  - **Programme:** max. 48 months
  - **Fellow:** between 3 and 36 months
  - **Secondments:** up to 1/3 of the fellowship duration
  - **Industrial doctorates:** at least 50% in the non-academic sector; can be in the same country as the academic host organisation
- **Calls:**
  - **2021:** 4 May - 16 Nov 2021
  - **2022:** 3 May - 15 Nov 2022
  - **Resubmission restrictions** applying as of 2022 for applications receiving a score **below 80%**

# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Continue **supporting postdoctoral research** and careers; open to **researchers of any nationality**
- New mind-sets and approaches to research and innovation through **interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral and international experience**
- Continue funding **all research domains** including areas of research covered by the **EURATOM Treaty**
- **Two types of Fellowships:**
  - **European Fellowships: 12-24 months**
  - **Global Fellowships: 24 -36** (12-24 outgoing & 12 months mandatory return phase in Europe)
- **Secondments** in any country
- **Incentive** for additional period of up to **6 months** for placements in the **non-academic sector**
- **Seal of Excellence**





# MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships

- Develop skills needed for **academia and beyond**
  - Intensify exposure/secondments to training in entities beyond academia
  - Improved guidance towards **career development** (plan & supervision)
- **Managing the increasing demand** to maintain high-quality selection & improve success rate
  - Limit research **experience** (with possible exceptions)
  - Require PhD degree
  - Restrict resubmissions below quality threshold (in 2022)
- **Calls:**
  - **2021:** 15 Apr – 15 Sept
  - **2022:** 14 Apr – 14 Sept

# MSCA Staff Exchanges



- **Most international action** under MSCA
- Support exchanges of **any type of staff contributing to research activities**: researchers at any career stage (doctoral to postdoctoral), as well as administrative, managerial and technical staff supporting R&I activities
- Emphasis on the **added-value of the collaboration** itself
- Lean and flexible tool to support **collaborative R&I projects**
- **Consortia**
  - **partnerships** of universities, research institutions and infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors
  - **at least 3 independent legal entities in three different countries**, two of which established in a different MS or AC

# MSCA Staff Exchanges

- **4 years** for project implementation (no change)
- **Secondments:** between 1 and 12 months
- **International, intersectoral, interdisciplinary** secondments
- New: **Interdisciplinary** secondments possible **within Europe** (max 1/3 of project's person-months)
- Size reduced to **360 person-months** (more manageable projects)
- **Calls:**
  - **2021:** 7 Oct 2021 - 9 Mar 2022
  - **2022:** 6 Oct 2022 – 8 Mar 2023





# MSCA COFUND

- **Mono-beneficiary action:** single entity established in MS or AC
- Continue **co-funding** national, regional, institutional schemes for doctoral training and postdoctoral fellowships in any discipline based on international mobility, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral experience
- Spread **best practices** of the MSCA by promoting **high standards** in the recruitment process and **excellent working conditions**
- Introduce **sustainable structuring effects**, by promoting excellent and sustainable research training
- Encourage **synergies** with European Structural and Investment Funds
  - Proposed programmes could focus on specific disciplines, notably when they are based on national or regional RIS3 strategies.
- **Career Development Plan**
  - To be jointly established by the supervisor and each recruited researcher upon recruitment. Revised (and updated where needed) within 18 months

# MSCA COFUND



- **Target groups**
  - **Doctoral candidates**, i.e. researchers without a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call
  - **Postdoctoral researchers**, i.e. researchers with a doctoral degree at the deadline of the co-funded programme's call
- The European Union's contribution covers **minimum living and mobility allowances** and can be used more flexibly. Max. €10 M.
- Minimum remuneration to be ensured
- **Duration**
  - Programme: max. 60 months (unchanged)
  - Fellow: min 3 months
  - Secondments: up to 1/3
- **Introduction of an MSCA Cofund Seal of Excellence**
  - For applications scoring  $\geq 85\%$
- **Calls:**
  - ❖ **2021:** 11 Oct 2021 – 10 Feb 2022
  - ❖ **2022:** 10 Oct 2022 – 9 Feb 2023

# Mobility rule applies!

## Doctoral Networks:

- *Recruited researchers can be of any nationality and must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary\* for more than **12 months in the 36 months** immediately before their recruitment date.*
- *\* Host organisation for the outgoing phase of Global Postdoctoral Fellowships*
- *\* Recruiting beneficiary or implementing partner for COFUND*



# MSCA and Citizens

- Continuation of the **European Researchers' Night**
- With a focus on **EC priorities and European Research and Innovation Missions** (Cancer, Climate, Oceans, Climate-neutral cities, Soil)
- And a promotion of the **European Union** and the impact of its policies on citizens' daily life
- **Call:**
  - **2021:** 17 June – 14 Oct 2021

# Next calls

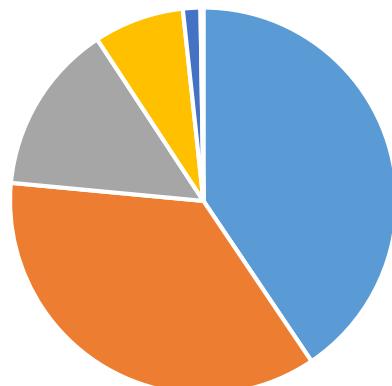
2021 Call	Preliminary planning*
Doctoral Networks	04 May 2021-16 Nov 2021
Postdoctoral Fellowships	15 Apr 2021-15 Sep 2021
Staff Exchanges	07 Oct 2021-09 Mar 2022
COFUND	11 Oct 2021-10 Feb 2022
Citizens	<i>1 Oct 2020 – 12 Jan 2021 (Night H2020)</i> 17 Jun 2021-14 Oct 2021

\* Still tbc

# Catalonia and the MSCA (2014-2020)

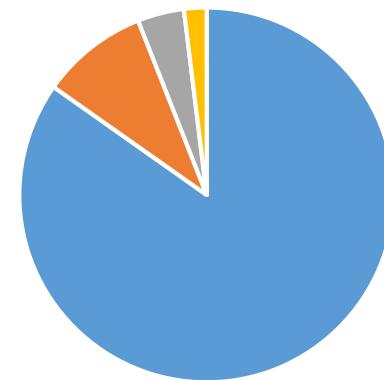
NUTS code	NUTS description	Projects	Single institutions
ES511	Barcelona	554	153
ES512	Girona	30	7
ES513	Lleida	14	7
ES514	Tarragona	72	9

821 Participations from institutions in Catalonia



■ IF ■ ITN ■ RISE ■ COFUND ■ NIGHT ■ SNLS

821 Participations from institutions in Catalonia



■ Barcelona ■ Tarragona ■ Girona ■ Lleida

# Your National Contact Points (NCP) can help you

## Spain's NCP

**Person of contact:** Cristina Gómez Corchete

**Function(s):** Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions on skills, training and career development

Contact Cristina Gómez Corchete

## Organisation

FECYT

C/ Pintor Velázquez, s/n- 28100 Alcobendas | Spain

**Tel:** +34 914250909 Ext: 3254 - **Fax:** +34 91 571 21 72

**Website:**<http://eshorizonte2020.es/>

## Spain's NCP

**Person of contact:** Jesús Rojo

**Function(s):** Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions on skills, training and career development

Contact Jesús Rojo

## Organisation

Fundación Madri+d

Velazquez, 76- 28001 Madrid | Spain

**Tel:** +34 91 781 65 72 - **Fax:** +34 91 576 60 52

**Website:**<http://eshorizonte2020.es/>

**National Contact Points:** <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

<https://www.net4mobilityplus.eu/>

# Links

## Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Website

[https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/node_en)

## MSCA Pocket Guide

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/758a6af6-82ad-11ea-bf12-01aa75ed71a1>

## Funding and Tenders Portal (applications, documents, partner search)

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/h2020>

## Euraxess (vacancies, more information)

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>

## European Charter and Code for Researchers

<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/euraxess/charter-code-researchers>

## National Contact Points

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>

## MCAA (Marie Curie Alumni association)

<https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu>

## Become an Expert

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>

## Contact

[EAC-UNITE-C2@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EAC-UNITE-C2@ec.europa.eu)



@MSCActions



@Marie.Curie.Actions



Nothing in life is to be feared,  
it is only to be understood.  
**Now is the time to understand  
more, so that we may fear less.**

— Marie Curie



¡Gracias!  
¡Gràcies!  
Thanks!