

ERC 2026



UK Research
Office



Consolidator Grant Webinar



Prof. Valentina Arena
Camden Professor of Ancient History
University of Oxford
ERC Consolidator Grantee



Dr Antonino Puglisi
UK Research Office
UK National Contact Point

23 Sept 2025 | 10am–12pm For more information erc-uk@ukro.ac.uk

Agenda for today



10.00 am – 12.00 pm



Overview of the ERC



Eligibility criteria



Proposal development



Submission Process



Evaluation



Break



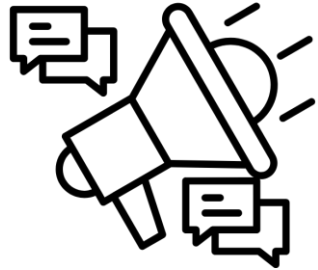
ERC Testimonial



Q&A

erc-uk@ukro.ac.uk

Housekeeping announcements



All participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar



We will be recording this session



Slides will be shared after the webinar on the event page



Please use the Q&A function to submit questions



You can 'up vote' your favourite questions in the Q&A



A chat function is available and will be monitored

About UKRO

We support UK organisations involved in EU R&I funding

- Part of UKRI's wider International team – championing EU engagement
- Host UK National Contact Points for ERC, MSCA, WIDERA, NEB and COST
- Provide resources to help understand Horizon Europe on the UKRO Portal www.ukro.ac.uk
- Work in partnership with EU support teams within research organisations – helping European Liaison officers navigate pre- and post-award



UK Research Office
Brussels



Striving for excellence with ERC funding





-EXCELLENCE

Long-term grants to conduct pioneering research projects



Over **13,000**
top researchers funded since
the ERC creation in 2007



Over **90,000**
researchers and other professionals
employed in ERC research teams



Over **2,400**
patents and other IPR applications
generated by ERC funding



Over **400**
start-ups identified as founded
or co-founded by ERC grantees



Over **250,000**
articles from ERC projects published
in scientific journals



Over **900** research institutions hosting
ERC grantees – universities, public or
private research centres in the EU or
Associated Countries

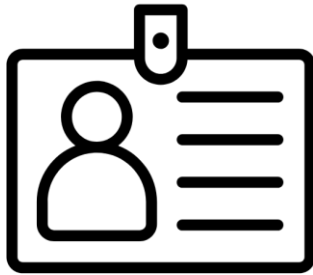


93
nationalities of
grant holders



12 Nobel Prizes, **6** Fields Medals, **11** Wolf Prizes
and other prizes awarded to ERC grantees





Who?

No restrictions based on age, nationality, current location or current employment/contract status



Where?

Must have an institution **based in an EU member state or associated** country willing to host them



Any field of science

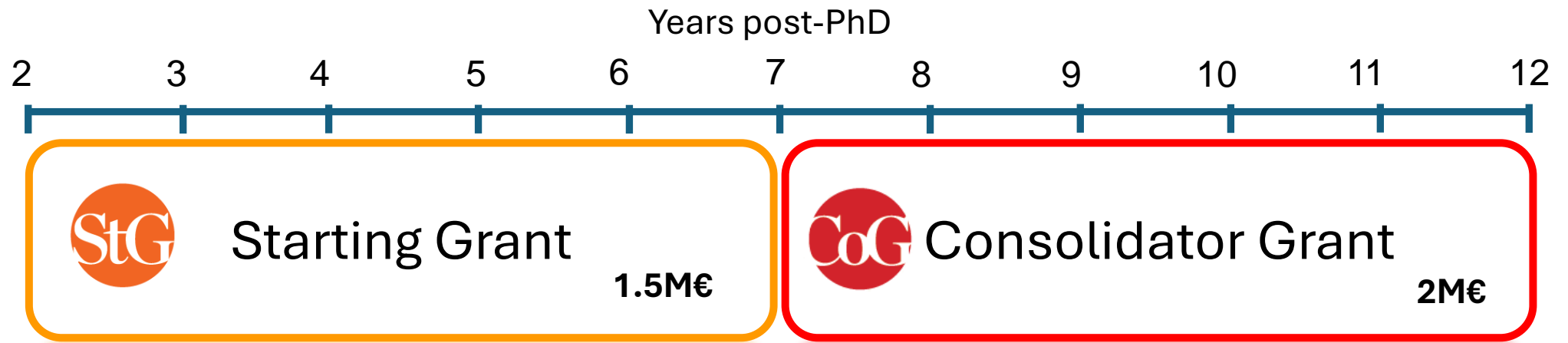
Scientific excellence of both yourself and your
ambitious pioneering research proposal

No thematic restrictions

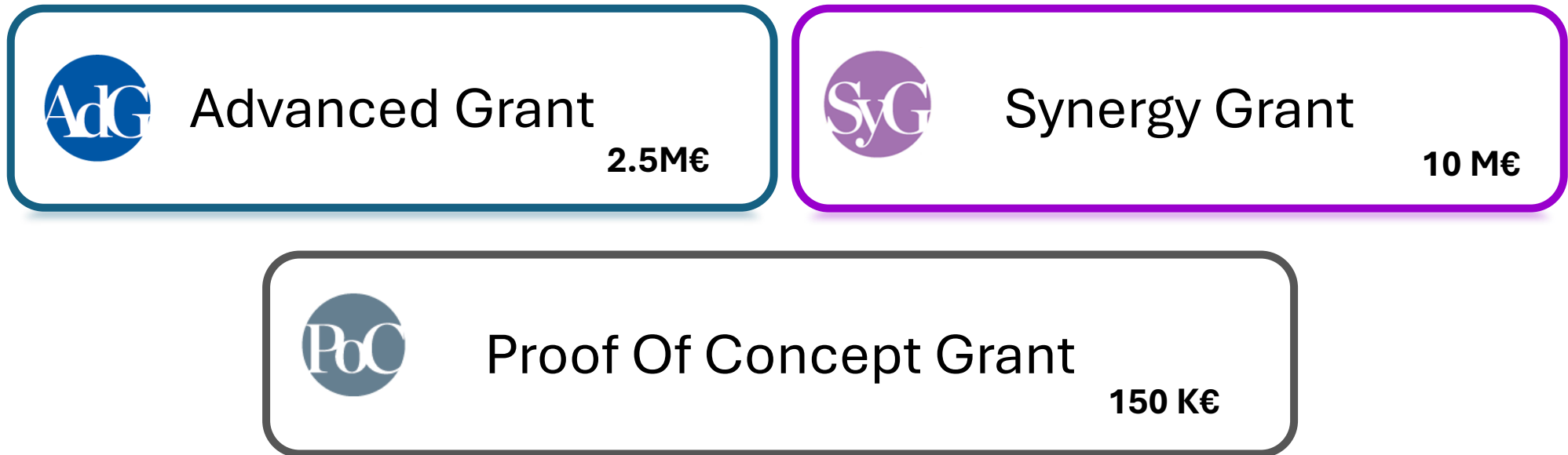
No consortium required

No co-financing needed

ERC Grant Opportunities



No PhD Requirements



Our past webinars



UK Research Office

erc

ERC 2026
Synergy Grant
Webinar

29 July 2025 | 10am-12pm


Dr. Antonino Puglisi
UK Research Office
ERC UK National Contact Point


Prof. Euan Spence
University of Bath
ERC Synergy Grantee

Deadline 5th November 2025



UK Research Office

erc

ERC 2026 | 31 July 2025, 10am-12pm
Starting
Grant Webinar

For more information
erc-uk@ukro.ac.uk


Dr Antonino Puglisi
UK Research Office
ERC UK National Contact Point


Dr Jane Kershaw
University of Oxford
ERC Starting Grantee

Deadline 14th October 2025



Changes ahead



Webinar
ERC Work Programme 2026

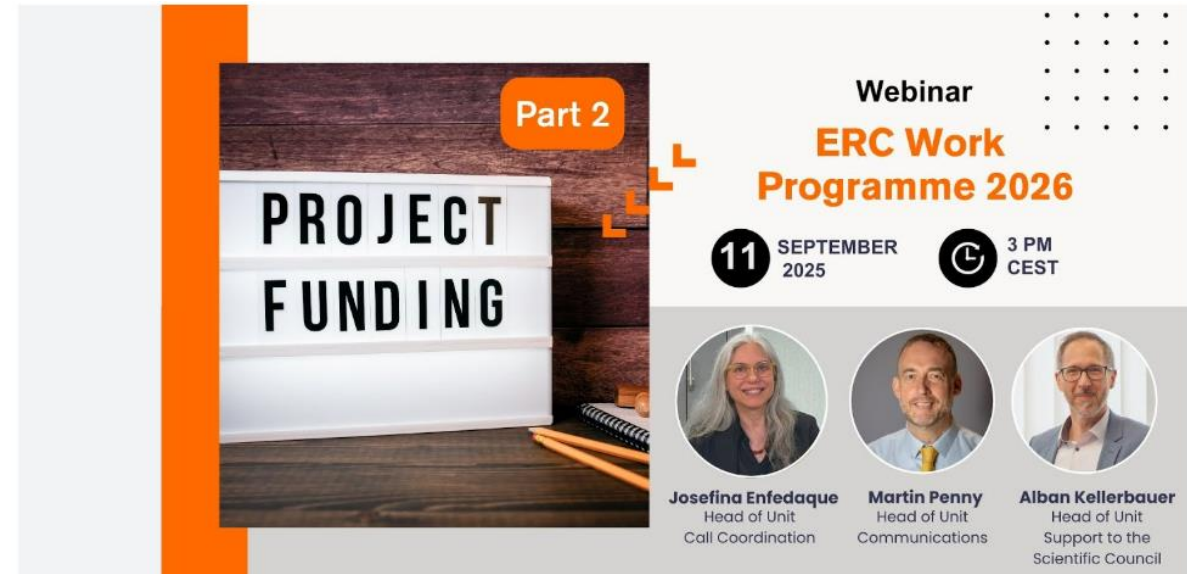
10 JULY 2025 **3 PM CEST**

Angela Liberatore
Speaker

Martin Penny
Host

Alban Kellerbauer
Speaker

[Webinar on ERC Work Programme 2026 - Part 1](#)



Webinar
ERC Work Programme 2026
Part 2

11 SEPTEMBER 2025 **3 PM CEST**

Josefina Enfedaque
Head of Unit
Call Coordination

Martin Penny
Head of Unit
Communications

Alban Kellerbauer
Head of Unit
Support to the
Scientific Council

[Webinar on ERC 2026 Work Programme | Part 2](#)

Consolidator Grant | in a nutshell

Supports researchers to consolidate their independence by establishing a research team and continuing to develop a success career in Europe



2 Million euros | Up to 5 years



That's for applicants who got their PhD between 7 to 12 years ago



[Information for applicants](#)

Consolidator Grant | Funding rates

Base amount

2 Million euros

Up to 5 years

Additional funding



Up to 1M euros

For grantees already working in the EU's MS or AC



Up to 2M euros



For grantees based anywhere in the world who want to move to EU's MS or AC



Can be request for **any purpose** -
Including personnel costs!



2026 Consolidator Grant

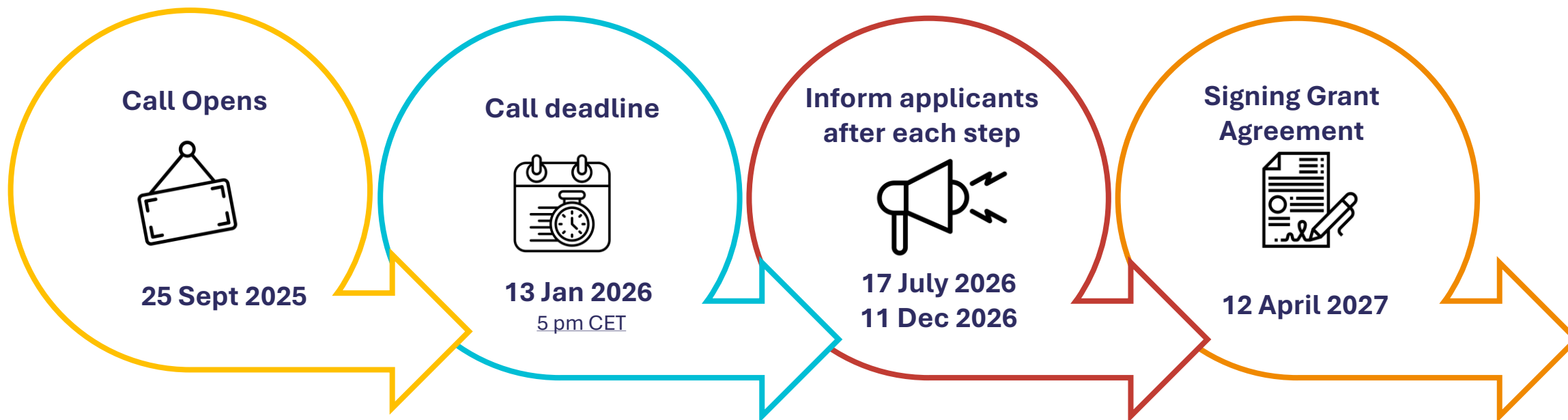
ERC-2026-CoG



€673 M



328 grants



UK Research Office
Brussels



Single submission

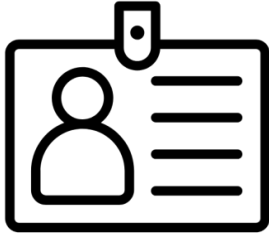
Two-step evaluation



Eligibility criteria



Principal Investigator Eligibility



Who?

No restrictions based on age, nationality, current location or current employment/contract status



Where?

Must have an institution **based in an EU Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC)** willing to host them

Time Commitment | ERC Consolidator

40% minimum of working time on grant

50% minimum time in EU's MS or AC



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Brussels

Extension of the eligibility window



**Successful defence of PhD
between 7 to 12 years ago**



From 1st Jan 2014 to 31st Dec 2018

Maternity leave

18 months per child
or longer if documented

Paternity or parental leave



Long-term illness or National service

Disability

Clinical training

Maximum 4 years

Major Disaster

Seeking Asylum

Gender-based Violence or Any Other Form of Violence



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Brussels



[Information for applicants](#)

Host Institution Eligibility



Any type of **legal entity**



Based in an **EU** Member State or Associated Country



Have the **infrastructure** to enable PI's independence



Must **not constrain the PI** to the institution's research strategy



Must **engage the PI** for project duration



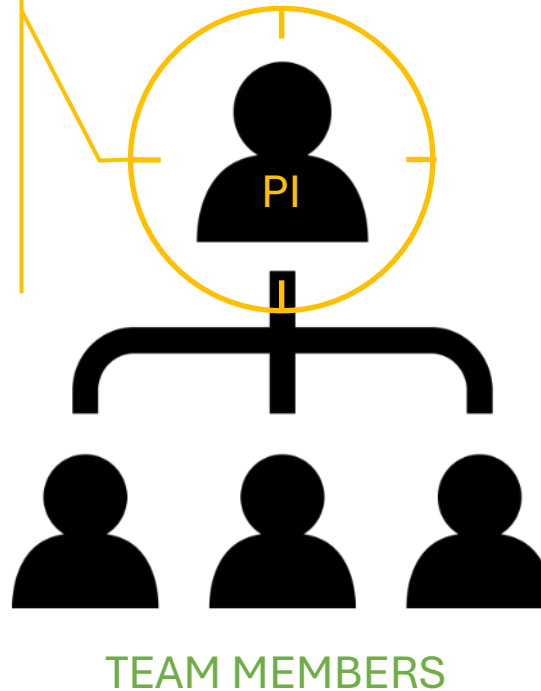
Not assessed at evaluation



- ✓ Sign the **Grant Agreement** with the Commission
- ✓ Sign the **Supplementary Agreement** with the PI

Principal Investigator & Team Members

- PI **leads** the research project - They are not collaborating as equals with their team
- PI has the **freedom to choose** how many team members are included in the project
- PI **names individuals or roles** that will be recruited in the proposal
- PI must **justify the team** and its composition and contribution

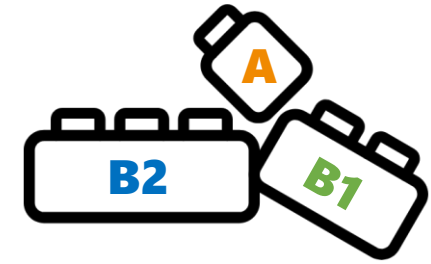


- Of any age, nationality or country of residence
- Can be based **at the Host Institution or any other organisation** in the world
- **Cannot be co-investigators**
- **Assigned to specific project outputs/tasks**
- Can be **research staff at any level** (including technicians and project managers)
- **EU funded** - Even outside member states or associated countries

Proposal development



ERC Application – Your building blocks



Part A

Administrative Forms



online

B1

Part I
+
CV & Track Record

(5 + 4 pages)



B2

Part II



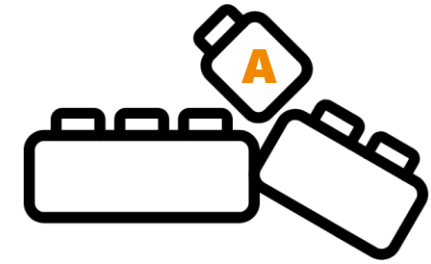
(7 pages)



Annexes

Host Institution Letter, Ethics, Eligibility Documents

Part A – Administrative forms



HORIZON

Call: ERC-2026-STG

(Call for Proposals for ERC Starting Grant)

Topic: ERC-2026-STG

Type of Action: HORIZON-ERC
(HORIZON ERC Grants)

Proposal number: SEP-211195760

Proposal acronym: test

Type of Model Grant Agreement: HORIZON Action Grant Budget-Based

Table of contents

Section	Title	Action
1	General information	Show
2	Participants	Show
3	Budget	Show
4	Ethics and security	Show
5	Other questions	Show

1. General Information

2. Participants

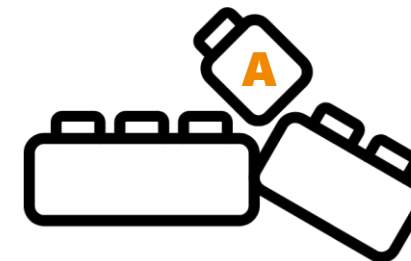
3. Budget

4. Ethics and security

5. Other questions



Part A | General Information



- Acronym
- Title of the project
- Duration
- Primary / secondary Review Panel
- Abstract
- Keywords (min 1) + free keywords
- (...)

1. General Information

2. Participants

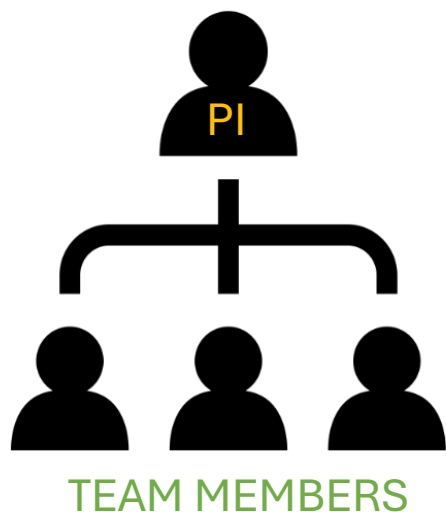
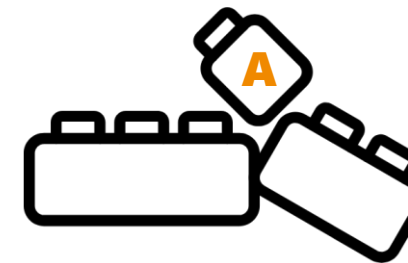
3. Budget

4. Ethics and security

5. Other questions



Part A | Participants



All encoded by their HI/beneficiary!

1. General Information

2. Participants

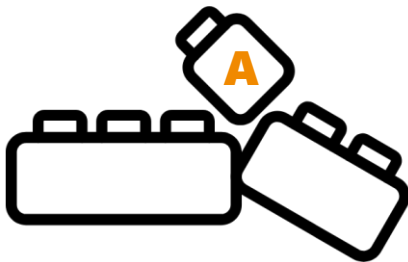
3. Budget

4. Ethics and security

5. Other questions



Part A | Budget



3 - Budget

Beneficiary Short Name	PI	Senior staff	Post docs	Students	Other staff	A. Total personnel costs €	B. Subcontracting Costs € (No indirect costs)	C.1 Travel and subsistence	C.2 Equipment - including major equipment	Consumables incl. fieldwork and animal costs	Publications (incl. Open Access fees) and dissemination	Other additional direct costs	C.3 Total other goods, works and services	C. Total Purchase costs €	D. Internally invoiced goods and services € (No indirect costs)	E. Indirect Cost €	Total Eligible Costs	Requested EU contribution €
United Kingdom Research And Innovation	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00

Section C. Resources

This section and the budget table will be made available to the experts evaluating the proposal at Step 2. Important: your description of resources will be truncated once it exceeds the maximum allowed characters. Please make sure that your description is complete before submitting.

State and fully justify the amount of funding considered necessary to fulfil the objectives for the duration of the project. The project cost estimation should be as accurate as possible. The evaluation panels assess the estimated costs carefully; unjustified budgets will be consequently reduced. Please specify if you will use third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action.

If applicable, please specify the cost items covered by your 'Other personnel costs' category and the cost items covered by your 'Other additional direct costs' category.

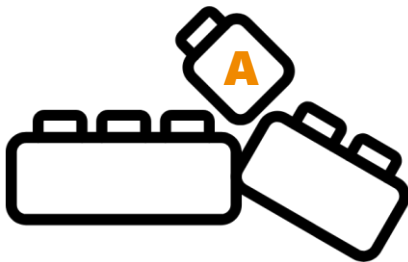
Request for additional funding if applicable (All items MUST be included in the overall budget table above): (Cost in EUR)

Justification:

- 1. General Information
- 2. Participants
- 3. Budget
- 4. Ethics and security
- 5. Other questions



Part A | Budget



3 - Budget

Beneficiary Short Name	Personnel costs						Purchase costs										Total Eligible Costs	Requested EU contribution €
	PI	Senior staff	Post docs	Students	Other staff	A. Total personnel costs €	B. Subcontracting Costs € (No indirect costs)	C. Travel and subsistence	C.1 Equipment - including major equipment	Consumables incl. fieldwork and animal costs	Publications (incl. Open Access fees) and dissemination	Other additional direct costs	C.3 Total other goods, works and services	C. Total Purchase costs €	D. Internally invoiced goods and services € (No indirect costs)	E. Indirect Cost €		
United Kingdom Research And Innovation	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00

By cost categories

Section C. Resources

This section and the budget table will be made available to the experts evaluating the proposal at Step 2. Important: your description of resources will be truncated once it exceeds the maximum allowed characters. Please make sure that your description is complete before submitting.

State and fully justify the amount of funding considered necessary to fulfil the objectives for the duration of the project. The project cost estimation should be as accurate as possible. The evaluation panels assess the estimated costs carefully; unjustified budgets will be consequently reduced. Please specify if you will use third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action.

If applicable, please specify the cost items covered by your 'Other personnel costs' category and the cost items covered by your 'Other additional direct costs' category.

Request for additional funding if applicable (All items MUST be included in the overall budget table above): (Cost in EUR)

Justification:

In a narrative way (8000 characters)



This part **will be extracted** and provided to the peer reviewers at **Step 2 evaluation**



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Brussels

Part A – Ethics & Security questions



Follow the guidance document

‘How to complete your ethics self-assessment’

4 - Ethics & security

Ethics Issues Table ?

1. Human Embryonic Stem Cells and Human Embryos	Page
Does this activity involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Does this activity involve the use of human embryos?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
2. Humans	Page
Does this activity involve human participants?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Does this activity involve interventions (physical also including imaging technology, behavioural treatments, etc.) on the study participants?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial Regulation (EU 536/2014) ? (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
3. Human Cells / Tissues (not covered by section 1)	Page
Does this activity involve the use of human cells or tissues?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
4. Personal Data	Page
Does this activity involve processing of personal data?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Does this activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including use of preexisting data sets or sources, merging existing data sets)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Is it planned to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries? Specify the type of personal data and countries involved	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Is it planned to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? Specify the type of personal data and countries involved	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Does this activity involve the processing of personal data related to criminal convictions or offences?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
5. Animals	Page
Does this activity involve animals?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
6. Non-EU Countries	Page
Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethics issues?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
It is planned to use local resources (e.g. animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? For data imports, see section 4.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? For data exports, see section 4.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

1. General Information

2. Participants

3. Budget

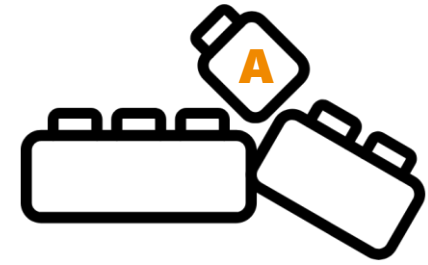
4. Ethics and security

5. Other questions



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Brussels

Part A – Other questions



- PhD reference date
- Extension requests
- Your Working Commitment
in the EU (50%) and to the project (40%)
- Excluded Reviewers
- (...)

1. General Information

2. Participants

3. Budget

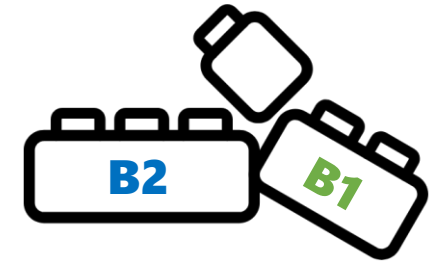
4. Ethics and security

5. Other questions



UK Research Office
Brussels

ERC Application – Your building blocks



Part A

B1

Part I
+
CV & Track Record



B2

Part II



Annexes

ERC Application – Your scientific proposal

Is this a great idea that would be worth pursuing?



ERC President explains changes in the ERC evaluation procedures

15 September 2025

The ERC Scientific Council continuously monitors

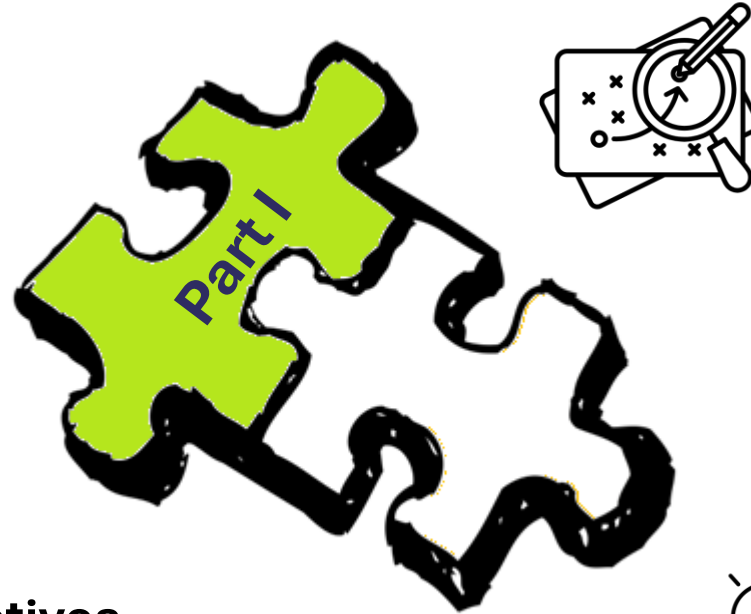
More share options



Can that idea be pursued realistically, and if so, in the manner and with the approach that the applicant proposes?

Part I | Your envisaged research

5 pages *max*



Present the **overall approach or research strategy** to reach the goals of the project



Explain the **scientific question & the objectives** of the project



Lay out the **current state of knowledge**

Part I | Your approach

5 pages *max*



Self-contained

Standalone document
Complementary to B2



Entertaining

Grab the panellists' attention
Leave them curious to find out more in B2
Convey your passion and motivation



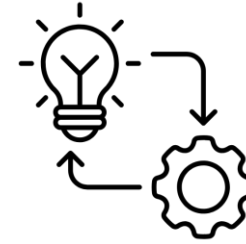
Persuasive to generalists

Do not use specialised jargon

Your scientific proposal | Part II

7 pages *max*

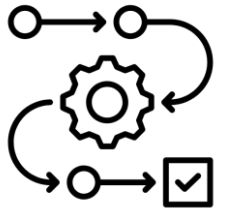
NEW



Describe the **implementation**



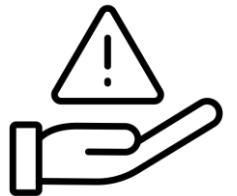
Methodology



Work plan



Risk assessment



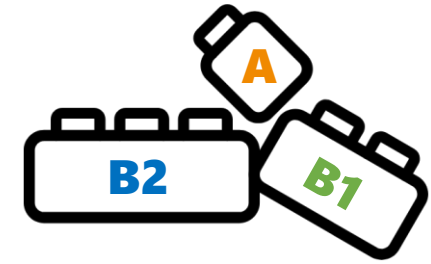
Part A | Budget

|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

8000 characters

**Justification for the requested
budget & resources**
already explained under “Resources”
in Part A, Section 3 - Budget

ERC Application – Overview



Follow the specific
formatting
requirements

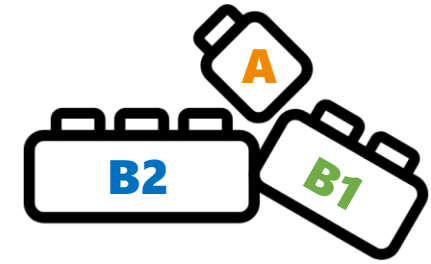


References do not
count towards the page
limit



Keep on hand
[Information for](#)
[Applicants](#)

ERC Application – Your building blocks



Part A

Administrative Forms



online

B1

Part I
+
CV & Track Record

(5 + 4 pages)



B2

Part II




(7 pages)



Annexes

Host Institution Letter, Ethics, Eligibility Documents


B2 – Your Templates

 **Deadline**
14 October 2025 17:00:00 Brussels Local Time

83 days left until closure

Call data


Call: ERC-2026-STG
Topic: [ERC-2026-STG](#)
Type of action: HORIZON-ERC
Type of MGA: HORIZON-AG

 Topic and type of action can only be changed by creating a new proposal.


Proposal data


Acronym: test
Draft ID: SEP-211195760


Download Part B templates


 [Download part B templates](#)


Support & Helpdesk

 Online Manual

 IT How To








 IT Helpdesk

 FAQ

 In this step you can edit the Administrative Forms and upload the proposal and its annexes. You may return to this step from the 'My Proposals' section of the Funding & Tenders Portal.
Submit your proposal as early in the process as possible - you can update and resubmit an improved version many times before the call closure.
Submitting a proposal will overwrite any previous versions of this same proposal - this process is irreversible.

C:\Offline\APug01\Downloads\templat...


File Edit View Favorites Tools Help


      


Add Extract Test Copy Move Delete Info


C:\Offline\APug01\Downloads\templates (15).zip\

Name


 ERC_StG_2026_B1_final.rtf



 ERC_StG_2026_B2_final_V2.rtf



 HI_Letter ERC-2026-StG_CoG_AdG_final.rtf



 Template for requesting an extension of the eligibility period_2026.rtf



0 / 4 object(s) selected



Requested attachments. 



 Upload 



 Upload 



 Upload 

 Upload 

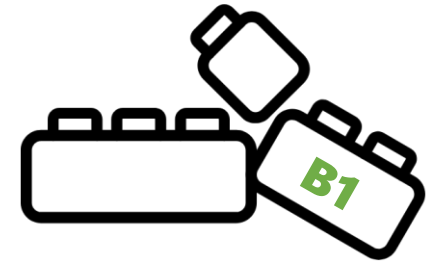
 Upload 

 Upload 

 Upload 

 Upload 

B1 – Overview



B1, your business card!



Cover Page

Info from Part A



Part I

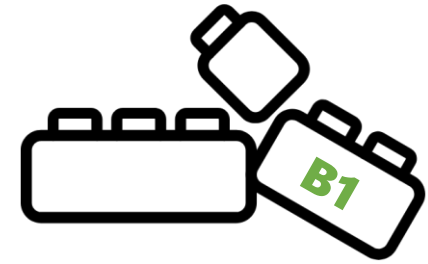
5 pages



CV and Track Record

4 pages

B1 – CV and Track Record



4 pages

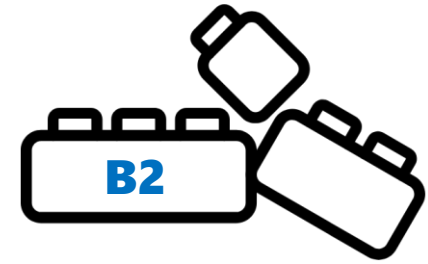
in one single template

- Personal details, education, key qualifications, current position(s) and relevant previous positions
- **list of up to ten research outputs** that demonstrate how the applicant has advanced knowledge in their field and a list of selected examples of **significant peer recognition** (for example, prizes).
- Include relevant additional information on **career breaks, diverse career paths, and life events**



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B2 – Overview



Part II

7 pages



“Funding ID”

*References and Funding ID not
counting towards page limits*



Information for Applicants

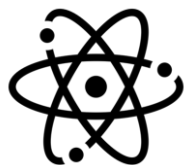


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Submission Process



ERC Evaluation Panels



Physical Sciences & Engineering

- PE1** Mathematics
- PE2** Fundamental Constituents of Matter
- PE3** Condensed Matter Physics
- PE4** Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences
- PE5** Synthetic Chemistry and Materials
- PE6** Computer Science and Informatics
- PE7** Systems and Communication Engineering
- PE8** Products and Processes Engineering
- PE9** Universe Sciences
- PE10** Earth System Science
- PE11** Materials Engineering



Life Sciences

- LS1** Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures & Functions
- LS2** Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems
- LS3** Cell Biology, Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration
- LS4** Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing
- LS5** Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System
- LS6** Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy
- LS7** Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases
- LS8** Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution
- LS9** Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering



Social Sciences & Humanities

- SH1** Individuals, Markets and Organisations
- SH2** Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems
- SH3** The Social World and its Interactions
- SH4** The Human Mind and Its Complexity
- SH5** Texts and Concepts
- SH6** The Study of the Human Past
- SH7** Human Mobility, Environment, and Space
- SH8** Studies of Cultures and Arts



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How do we pick the right panel?



Your proposal

Please choose an acronym for your proposal.
It will appear also in the "General Information" section of the Application Form Part A and can also be updated there.

Acronym 20

Short Summary 2000

ERC Panel

SAVE AND GO TO NEXT STEP

**Select your primary evaluation panel
(e.g. LS3/SH1/PE4 etc)**

See a full list of ERC panels and keywords in
Annex 4 of the Information for Applicants

Approaching Proposal Submission

Register in the Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal and create an ECAS account



Get in touch with your research support office



Add relevant contact people to the online application




Submit early and often – latest version will be accepted



Keep the **Information for Applicants** in front of you throughout!!!



Main proposal page on EC Portal

 Deadline

14 October 2025 17:00:00 Brussels Local Time

83 days left until closure


Call data

Call: ERC-2026-STG

Topic: [ERC-2026-STG](#)

Type of action: HORIZON-ERC

Type of MGA: HORIZON-AG


 Topic and type of action can only be changed by creating a new proposal.

Proposal data

Acronym: test


Draft ID: SEP-211195760


Download Part B templates





[Download part B templates](#)

Support & Helpdesk


 Online Manual


 IT How To


 IT Helpdesk

 FAQ

Service Desk:

 EC-FUNDING-TENDER-SERVICE-DESK@ec.europa.eu


 +32 2 29 92222

 In this step you can edit the Administrative Forms and upload the proposal and its annexes. You may return to this step from the 'My Proposals' section of the Funding & Tenders Portal.


Submit your proposal as early in the process as possible - you can update and resubmit an improved version many times before the call closure.

Submitting a proposal will overwrite any previous versions of this same proposal - this process is irreversible.

Any changes made to the proposal will not be available to the European Commission service unless resubmitted before the call closure.


 Your proposal contains changes that have not yet been submitted.

Administrative forms (Part A)


Edit forms 

View history



Print preview





Part B and Annexes

In this section you may upload the technical annex of the proposal (in PDF format only) and any other requested attachments. 



Part B1 *

 [Upload](#) 



Part B2 *

 [Upload](#) 



Host Support Letter *

 [Upload](#) 



PhD certificate *

 [Upload](#) 



Extension request

 [Upload](#) 



Annex 2

 [Upload](#) 



Annex 3

 [Upload](#) 



Annex 4

 [Upload](#) 

Annex 5

 [Upload](#) 

Annex 6

 [Upload](#) 

[BACK TO PARTICIPANTS LIST](#)

[VALIDATE](#)

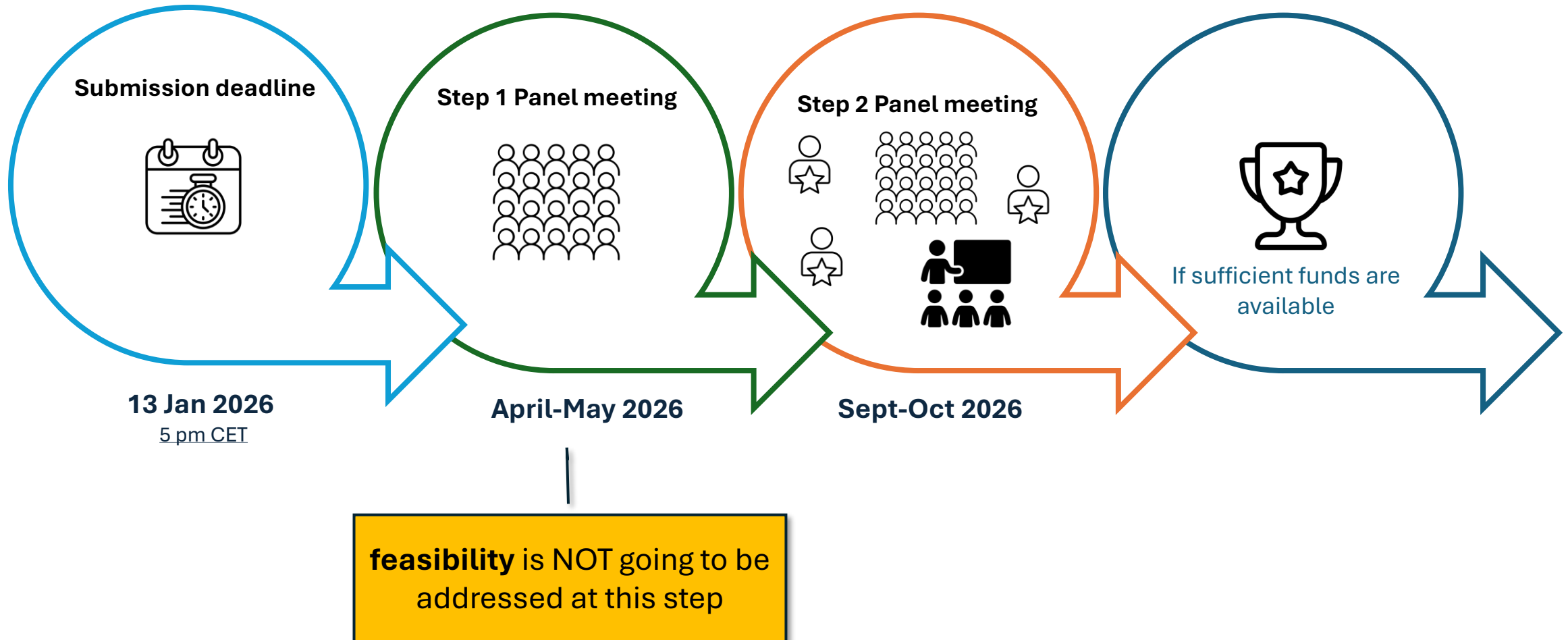
[SUBMIT](#)

Evaluation Process

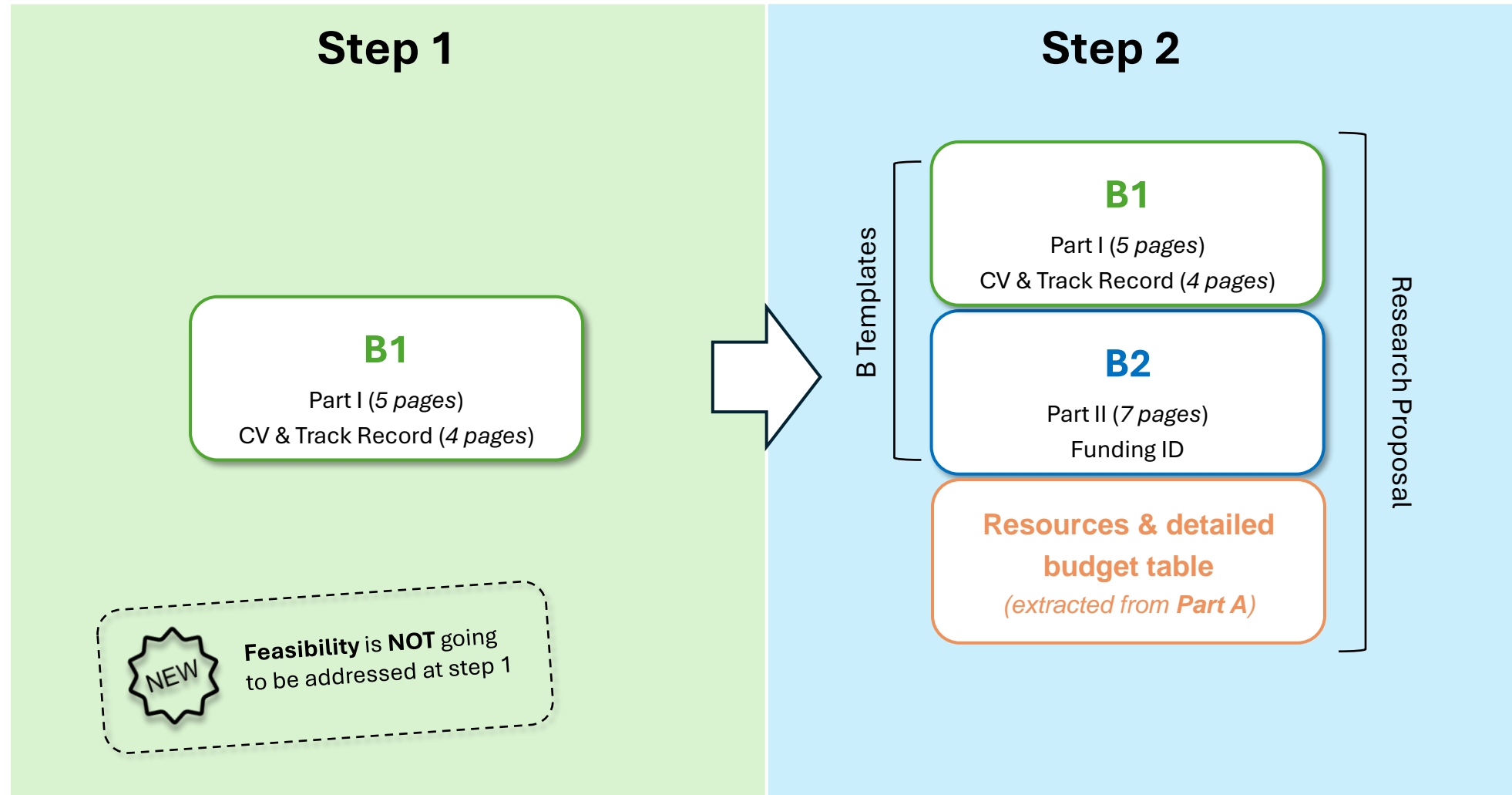


ERC Consolidator | Evaluation

(ERC-2026-CoG)



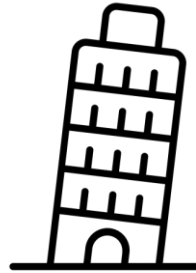
ERC Consolidator | Evaluation



What is the evaluation based on?

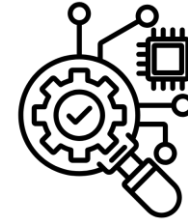
Principal Investigator

intellectual capacity,
creativity
commitment

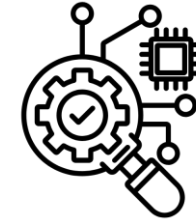


Research project

ground-breaking nature
ambition



Evaluation of the Research Project



Ground-breaking nature & ambition

Step 1

To what extent...

- ...does the research address important scientific questions?
- ...are the project's objectives ambitious and will it advance the frontier of knowledge?

Step 2

To what extent...

- ...does the research address important scientific questions?
- ...are the project's objectives ambitious and will it advance the frontier of knowledge?
- ...are the research methodology and working arrangements appropriate to achieve the goals of the project?
- ...are the timescales and resources adequate and properly justified?

Evaluation of the **Principal Investigators**

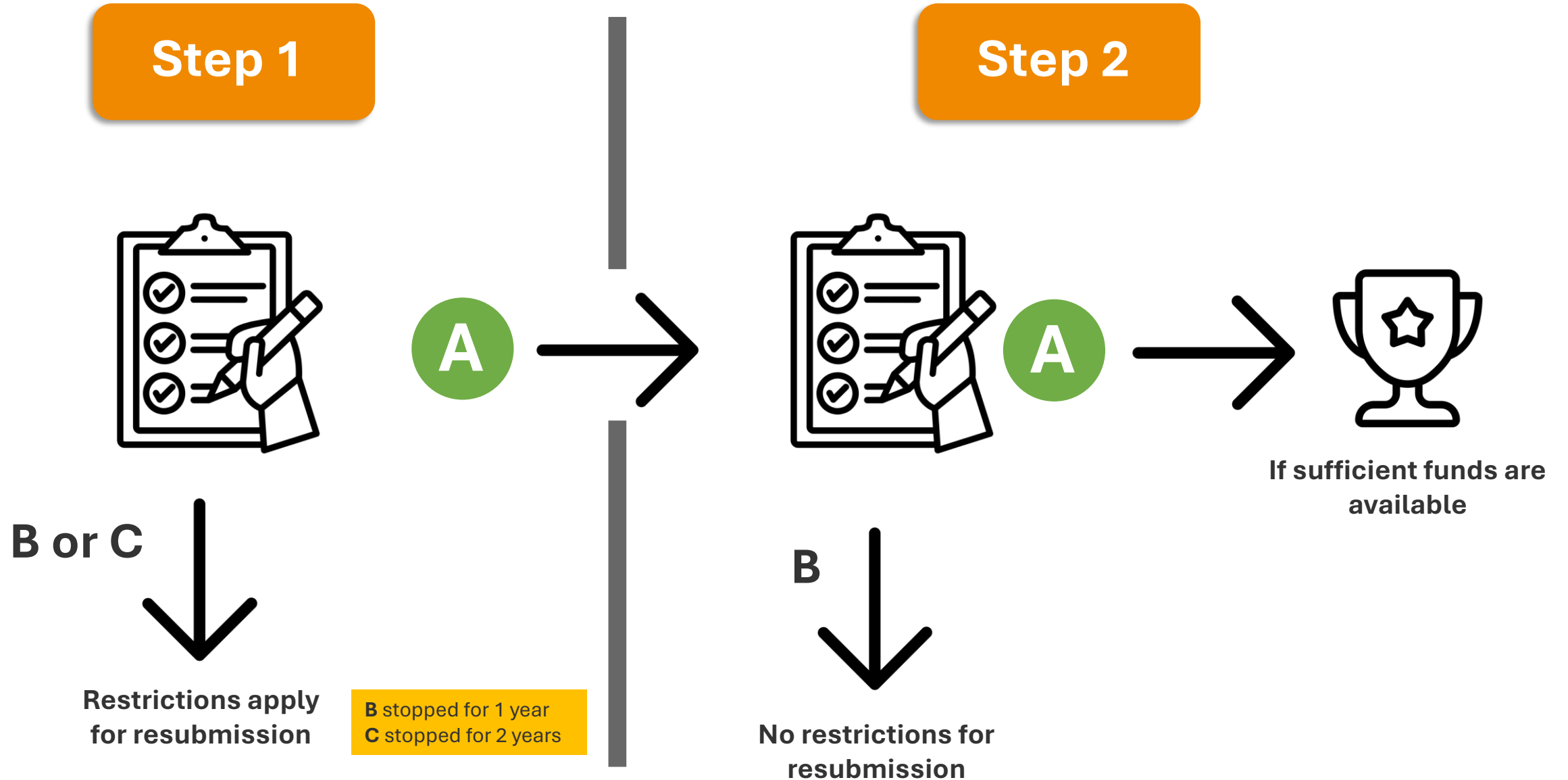
Intellectual capacity and creativity



To what extent...

- ...the PI demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research?
- ...the PI provides evidence of creative and original thinking?
- ...the PI has the required scientific expertise and capacity to successfully execute the project?

Evaluation Outcomes



Other Points for Consideration



Open Science

Under Horizon Europe, beneficiaries of ERC grants must **ensure open access to all peer-reviewed scientific publications** relating to their ERC project results.

Open access means accessible on:

- a trusted repository
- under a CC BY (or equivalent) licence (either to the ‘author accepted manuscript’ or the published ‘version of record’).

For long-text publications like monographs

- a CC BY-NC / ND / NC-ND licence (or equivalent) is acceptable.
- The ERC Scientific Council recommends the use of the OAPEN Open Books library (<https://oapen.org>) as repository for monographs and other books as well as book chapters.



- ❖ [Guidelines on FAIR Data Management in Horizon 2020](#)
- ❖ www.openaire.eu
- ❖ <https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/>

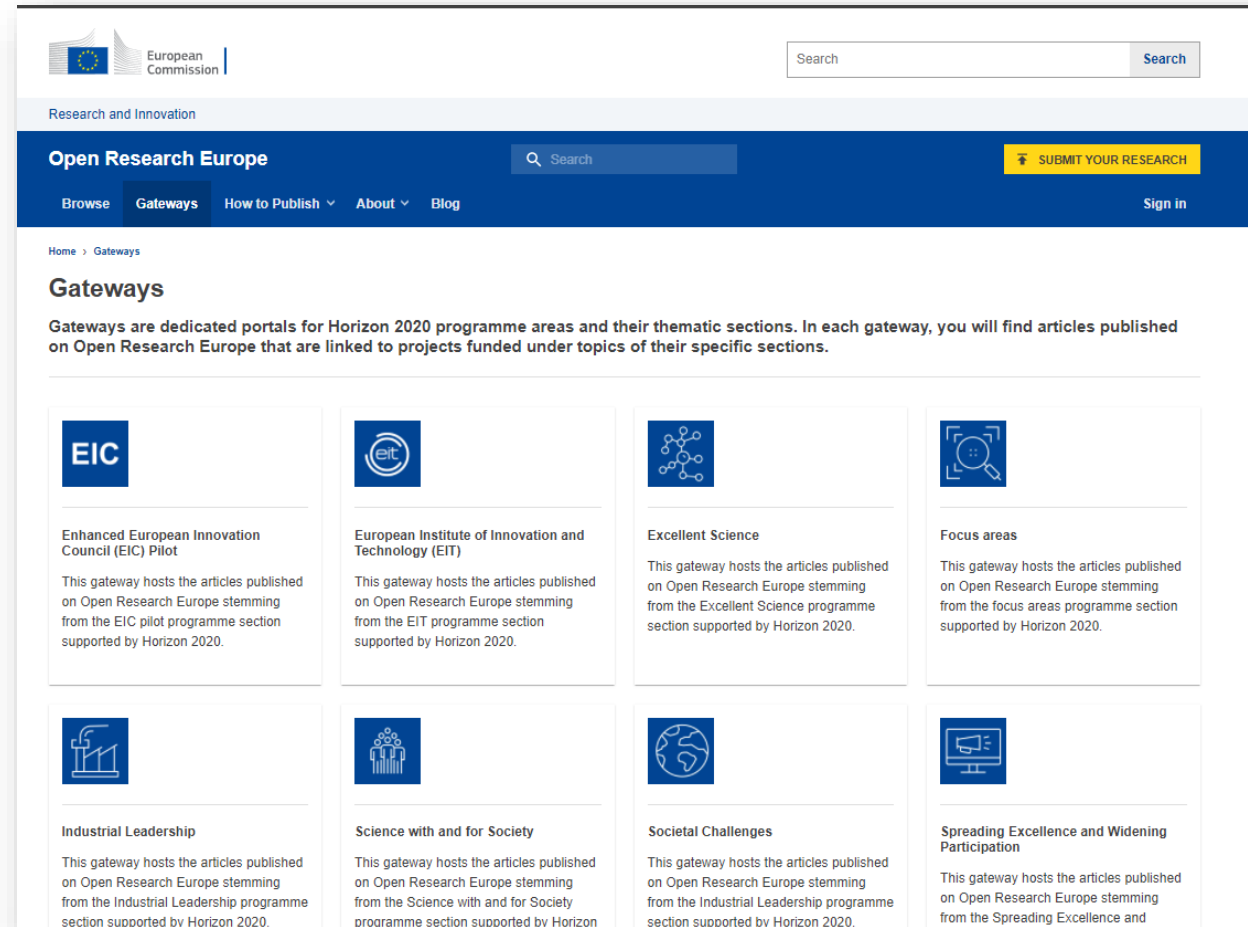
Publishing Fees will be eligible for funding if the venue is fully open access (i.e. a full open access journal or book, or an open access publishing platform like, e.g., Open Research Europe)



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[You can find the provisions related to Open Science on pages 107 – 109 of the Model Grant Agreement](#)

Open Research Europe



Scholarly publishing platform that will provide Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe beneficiaries with a no-cost full open access peer-reviewed publishing service, across all fields of research



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<https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/>

Gender

Sex and Gender dimension of your project

- Not a strict requirement in of itself, but..
- Integrating the gender dimension in research and innovation can make your proposal more competitive
- Proper consideration of sex and gender in research design is often evaluated as added excellence to the research question and methodology.
- **Some basic questions you can ask in project design:**
 - Are some of your findings going to be gender specific?
 - Do you justify your gender choices in the research design to peer reviewers?
 - If the topic is not relevant to Sex & gender, do you explicitly acknowledge that consideration?

Find more tips and guidance:

In a recent [ERC workshop](#) about how ERC-style excellence in different domains can be interrelated with the Sex and Gender Dimension.

Gender rules for eligibility and in the Part A form

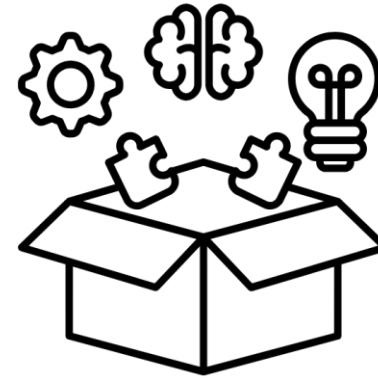
- A Gender Equality Plan (GEP) has to be in place for the Host Institutions before the signature of the grant agreement.
- GEPs are the Host Institution's responsibility, it is not the Principal Investigator's responsibility
- Proposal PI and team members' gender and career stage details requested in Part A are not seen by evaluators.
- These Part A personal details are used in a quantitative way by the Commission to monitor progress towards gender equality and better careers in the European research sector



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Useful resources

- [ERC Website](#)
- [ERC Classes available on YouTube](#) 
- [Webinar on ERC Work Programme 2026](#)
- [ERC 2026 Work Programme](#)
- [Information for Applicants 2026](#)
- [Call for proposal](#)
- [Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#)



Stay tuned



erc-uk@ukro.ac.uk



Contact us via email

New **ERC** newsletter
coming up soon



**Best of luck with your
frontier research!**



Break



Q&A



Credits



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For more information please see [Noun Project](#)





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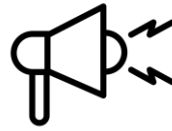
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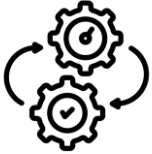
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Created by rukantoon from Noun Project



Created by Ivan Fier from Noun Project



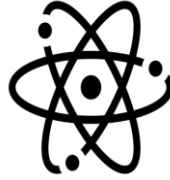
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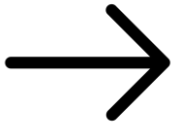
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