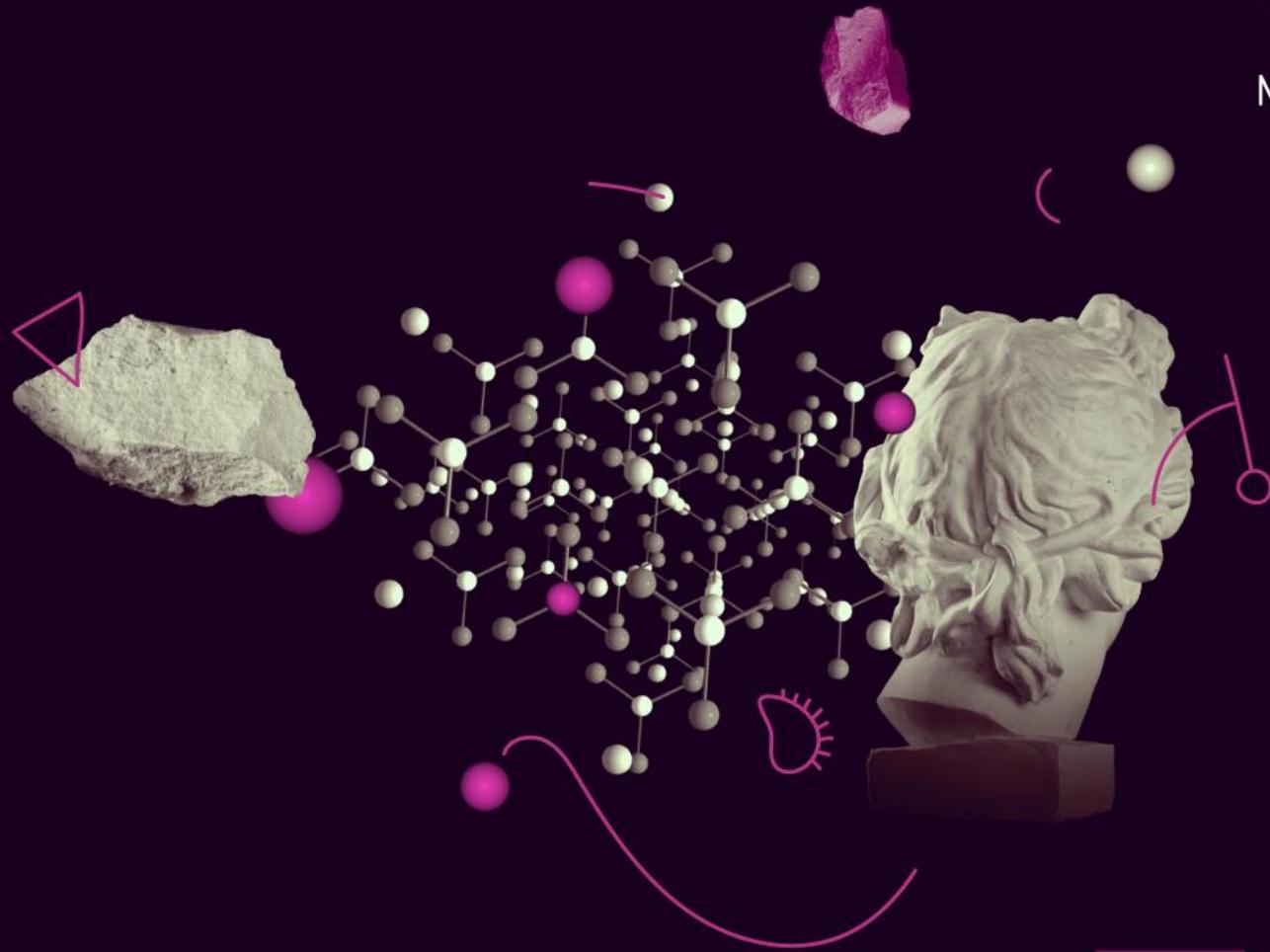




MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research



Staff Exchanges

Evangelos DASKALOPOULOS

Project Adviser

European Research Executive Agency (REA)

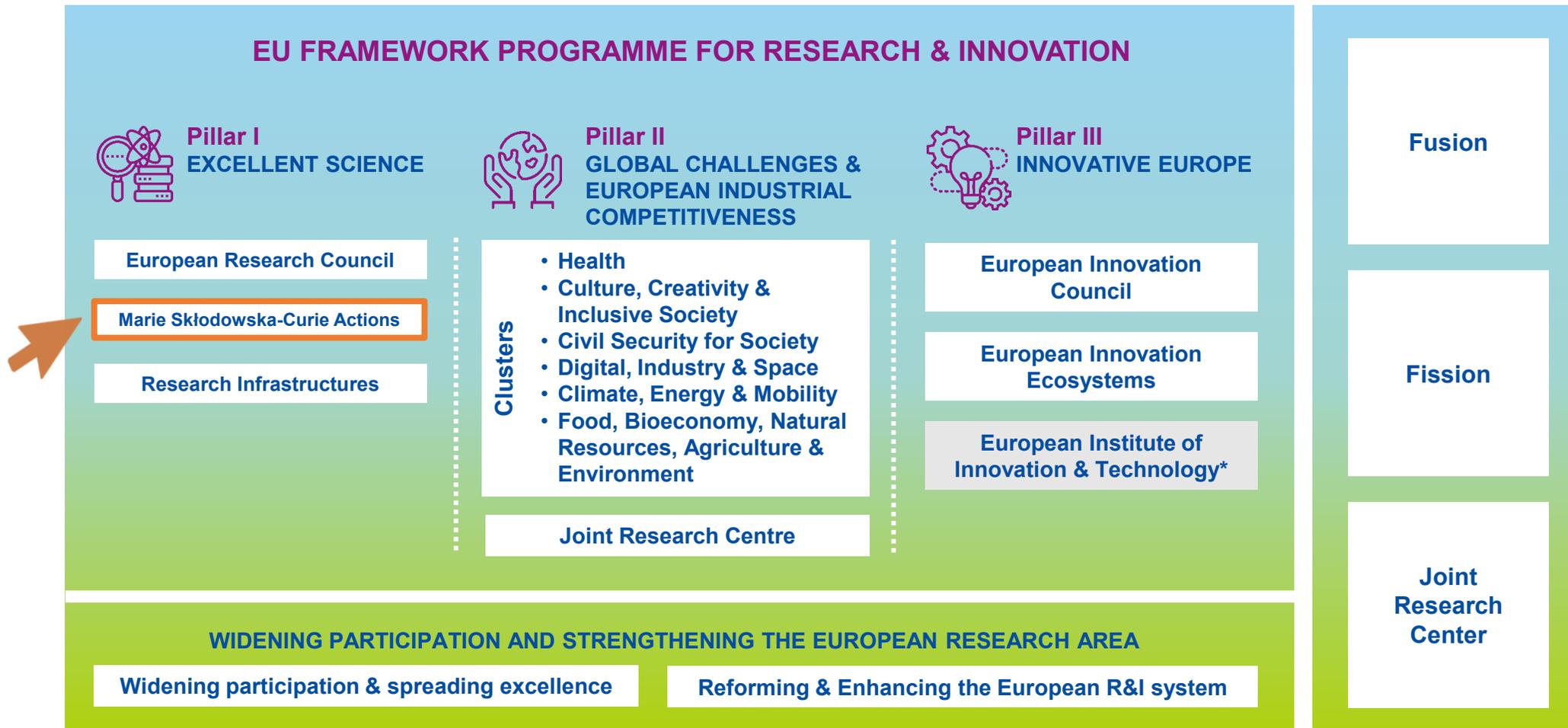
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

24 February 2026

image source: iStockphoto.com

Horizon Europe

EURATOM



Horizon Europe: EUR 95.5B
MSCA: EUR 6.6B

MSCA key features



Researchers' training, skills and career development (all stages of career)



Excellent research in all domains (bottom-up approach)



International, cross-sectoral & interdisciplinary mobility



Attractive working and employment conditions



Structuring impact on organisations through excellent programmes



Strong collaboration with industry and SMEs

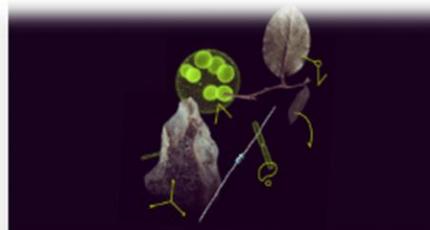
MSCA



Doctoral Networks (DN)

Supporting programmes to train doctoral candidates in academic and non-academic organisations.

[Rules and requirements for the Doctoral Networks action](#)



Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF)

Supporting career perspectives and excellence of postdoctoral researchers.

[Postdoctoral Fellowships and who can apply for them](#)



Staff Exchanges (SE)

Encouraging collaborations between organisations through staff exchanges.

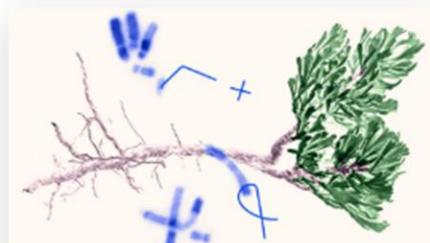
[How to apply for Staff Exchanges action](#)



COFUND

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes.

[Full details of the COFUND action](#)



MSCA and Citizens

Bringing research and researchers closer to the public at large.

[Learn what MSCA and Citizens is and does](#)

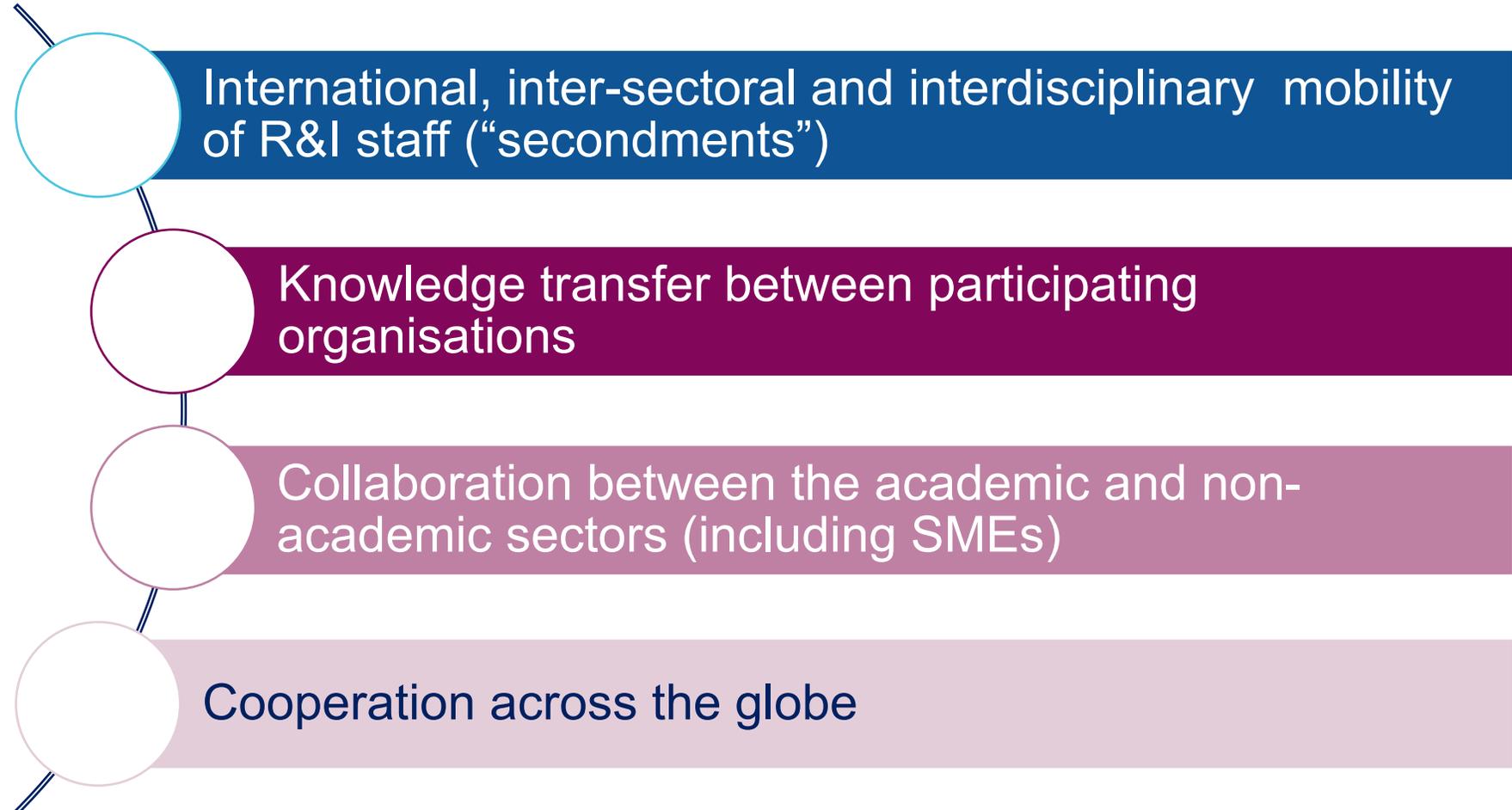


Choose Europe for Science

Supporting attractive and sustainable research careers in Europe for top talent.

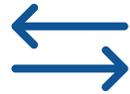
[Discover the details of the Choose Europe for Science action](#)

Objectives



Added value

Staff members



Transferable
skills &
competence
s



Employability
& career
prospects



Ideas
converted
into
products,
processes &
services

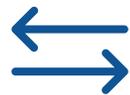


International
exposure



Networking &
communication

Organisations



Transfer of
knowledge



Collaborative
networks



R&I capacity

Key features



BOTTOM UP
scientific panels



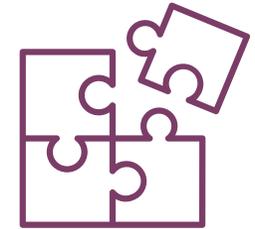
TOP UP ALLOWANCE
5170 € unit cost



SECONDMENTS
1-12 months per staff
Interdisciplinary
Intersectoral
International



DURATION
4 years
Max 360 PM



SYNERGY
EU grants
Not MSCA*

Eligible participants



Academic sector



Consortium of min. 3 legal entities in 3 different countries, 2 of which in a different EU Member State or HE Associated Country



Non-academic sector

The consortium must include participating organisations from both academic and non-academic sectors

Participants and roles



Beneficiary

Send/Host
secondments
Manage EU funding
Sign CA



EU Associated partner

Host secondments only



Third country Associated partner

Eligible for funding
Send/Host
secondments



**Third country
Associated partner**
Not Eligible for funding
Send/Host
secondments



Eligible staff



Any type of staff involved in R&I activities (researchers, administrative staff, managerial staff, technical staff)

Each staff member is seconded for a period of **1 to 12 months** (may be split into several stays)

Staff needs to be devoted **full-time (no part time)** to the action during the secondment

After the secondment, staff should **return to their sending institution**

Seconded staff members



Researchers at any career stage (e.g., from doctoral candidates to postdoctoral researchers)

Eligible exchanges



"HOSTING"
(receiving seconded staff members)

"SENDING"
(sending staff
members
from organization)

	Organisation in MS/AC (2)	Associated Partners eligible for funding	Associated Partners non-eligible for funding
Organisation in MS/AC (1)	✓	✓	✓
Associated Partners eligible for funding	✓	✗	✗
Associated Partners non-eligible for funding	✗	✗	✗



What does Staff Exchanges fund?





Focus on the proposal

Proposal Submission

MSCA Staff Exchanges 2026

HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01-01

Topic Call for proposal

Internal navigation

- General information
- Topic description
- Topic updates
- Destination
- Conditions and documents
- Budget overview
- Partner search announcements
- Start submission

General information

Programme
Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Call
MSCA Staff Exchanges 2026 (HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01)

Type of action HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-SE HORIZON TMA MSCA Staff Exchanges	Type of MGA HORIZON Unit Grant [HORIZON-AG-UN]	Open For Submission
Deadline model single-stage	Opening date 16 December 2025	Deadline date 16 April 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic description

Apply! <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/>

How to find partners?



NETWORKING
EVENTS
(CONFERENCES,
WORKSHOPS,
ETC.)



FORMER OR
CURRENT
COLLABORATIONS



JOINT
PROJECTS



FUNDING AND
TENDER
OPPORTUNITIE
S PORTAL



MSCA
MATCHMAKING
PLATFORM

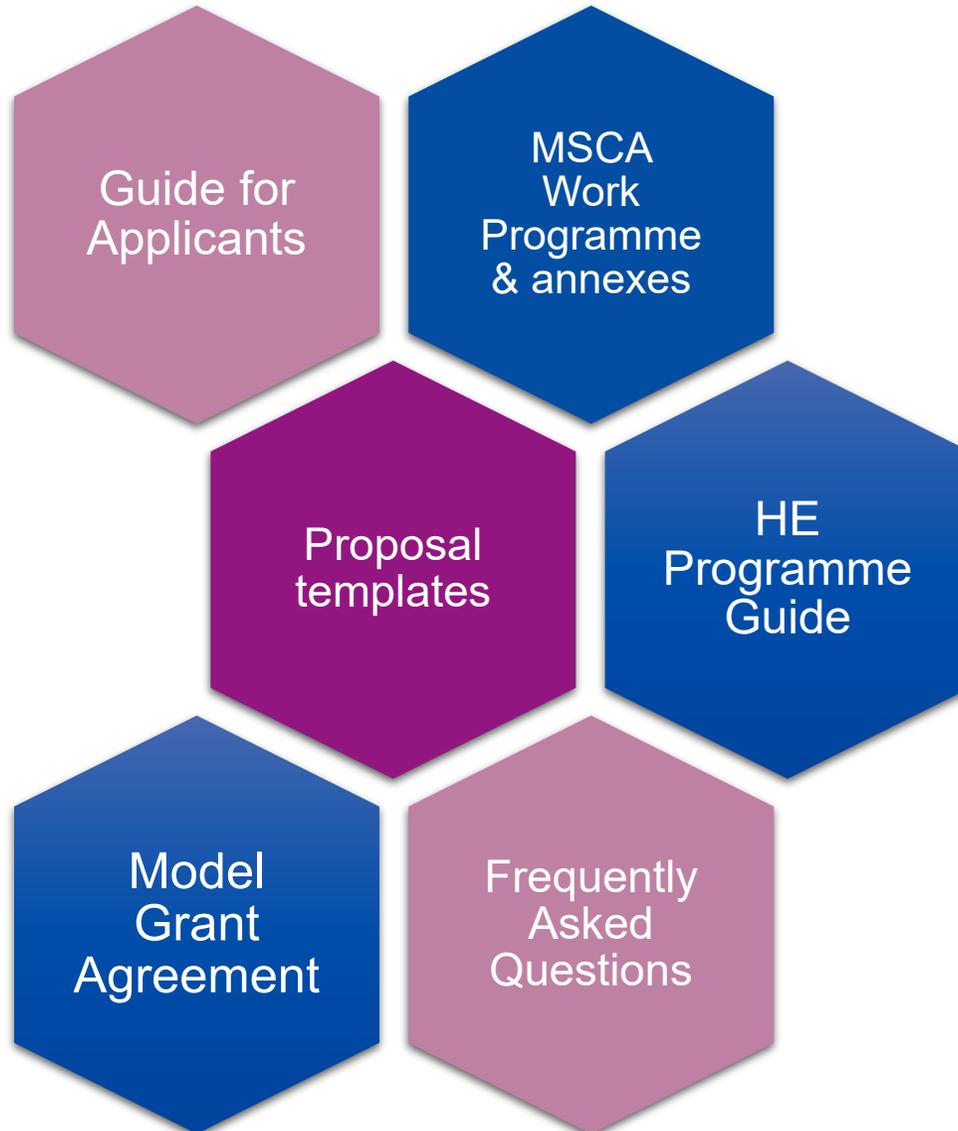


EUROPEAN
ENTERPRISE
NETWORK



NATIONAL
CONTACT
POINT

Reference Documents



Proposal documents

Part A (structured data)

Application forms

Call:
HORIZON-MSCA-2026-SE-01

Topic:

Type of Action:
HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-SE

Proposal number:

Proposal acronym:

Type of Model Grant Agreement:

Table of contents

Section	Title	Action
1	General information	
2	Participants	
3	Budget	
4	Ethics and security	

[How to fill in the forms](#)
The form must be filled in for each proposal using the templates available in the submission system. Some data fields in the form are pre-filled based on the steps in the submission wizard.

HORIZON-LIN FORMSET ver 1.00.20211018 Page 1 of 17 Last saved: 19/10/2021 11:34

Part B (description of action)

Call: [insert call identifier] — [insert call name] EU Grants: Application Form (Part B) (HE MSCA SE) V4.0 - 18.12.2021

START PAGE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

Staff Exchanges (SE)

Call: HORIZON-MSCA-SE-2026

PART B1

"PROPOSAL ACRONYM"

Part B1 - Page 6 of 17

Award criteria



Excellence	Impact	Quality and efficiency of the implementation
Quality and pertinence of the project's research/innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art)	Developing new and lasting research collaborations , achieving transfer of knowledge between participating organisations and contributing to improving research and innovation potential at the European and global level	Quality and effectiveness of the work plan , assessment of risks , and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages
Soundness of the proposed approach to foster international, intersectoral and interdisciplinary collaborations	Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives of staff members and contribution to their skills development	Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise
Soundness of the proposed methodology (including consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality of open science practices)	Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts , as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities	
Quality of the proposed interaction between the participating organisations in light of the research and innovation objectives.	The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts	
50%	30%	20%

The threshold for all criteria will be 3

Tips and tricks

Closely follow the call requirements

Be in line with the action's objectives and expected outcomes

Follow available guidelines

Use the structure provided in the template and address all the evaluation criteria

Highlight the EU dimension

Show that your proposal addresses EU policy priorities and/or societal challenges

Get a second opinion

Have your proposal proof-read by a colleague and pre-screened by your NCP

Sustainability of collaboration

Describe the benefits of cooperation and how they can go beyond this project

Contact your National Contact Point (NCP)



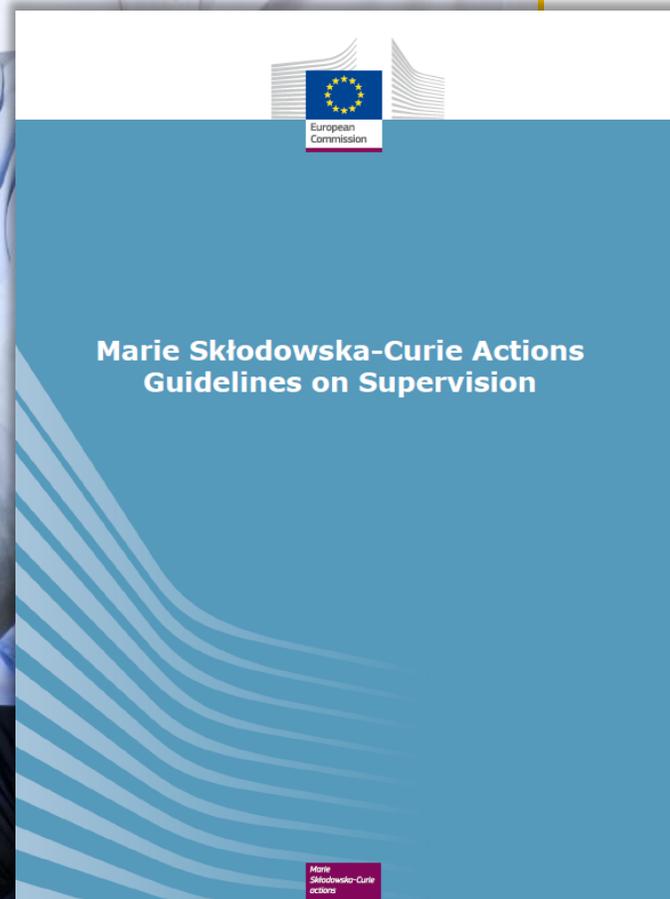
Recommended Guidelines in the HE Work programme

Horizon Europe Work Programme :

*“All MSCA-funded projects are encouraged to follow the recommendations outlined in the **Guidelines for MSCA supervision**”.*

A set of recommendations to be adopted on a best effort basis by participants in the programme – both individuals and institutions – e.g. from research support and career development to well-being, conflict resolution and training for supervisors.

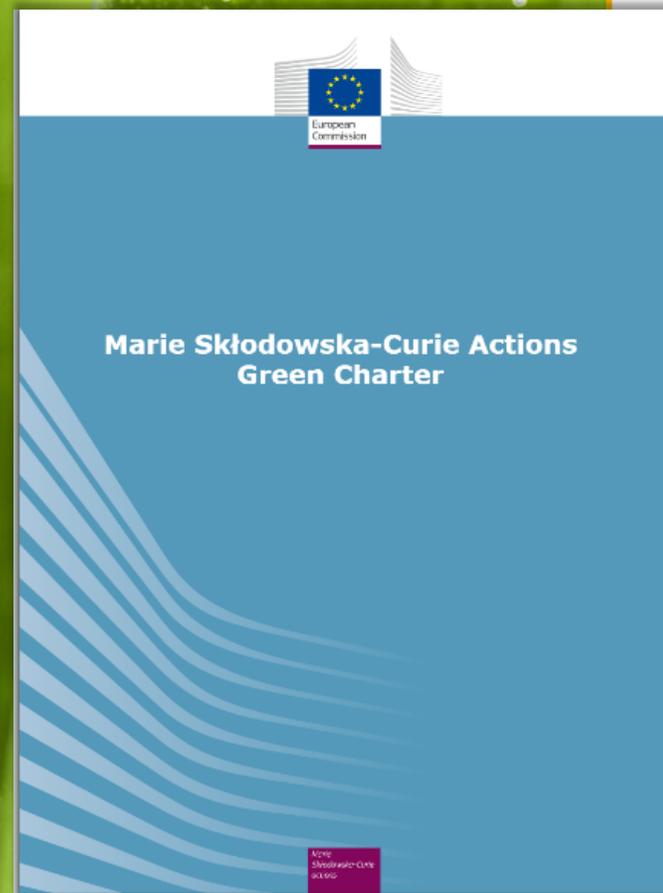
<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/about-msca/msca-guidelines-supervision>



Recommended Guidelines in the HE Work programme

Horizon Europe Work Programme :
*“All MSCA-funded projects are encouraged to address the principles of the **MSCA Green Charter** and implement measures to minimize the environmental footprint of their activities”.*

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/green-charter>



Key Dates & Budget Call 2026



Call Opening: **16 December 2025**



Call Closure: **16 April 2026**



Call Budget: **97.92 M€**

Novelties call 2026



Greater flexibility to support 3-way mobility

- **Same-sector secondments** now allowed; **international cooperation** strongly encouraged
 - Removal of requirement for a non-associated third country (when all partners were in the same sector)
 - Both academic and non-academic sectors must be involved
- Removal of the “**one-month rule**” before secondment



Skills development

- Enhanced skills development section



Minimum threshold

- New minimum threshold of 3 in each evaluation criteria



Unit cost (Cat. A)

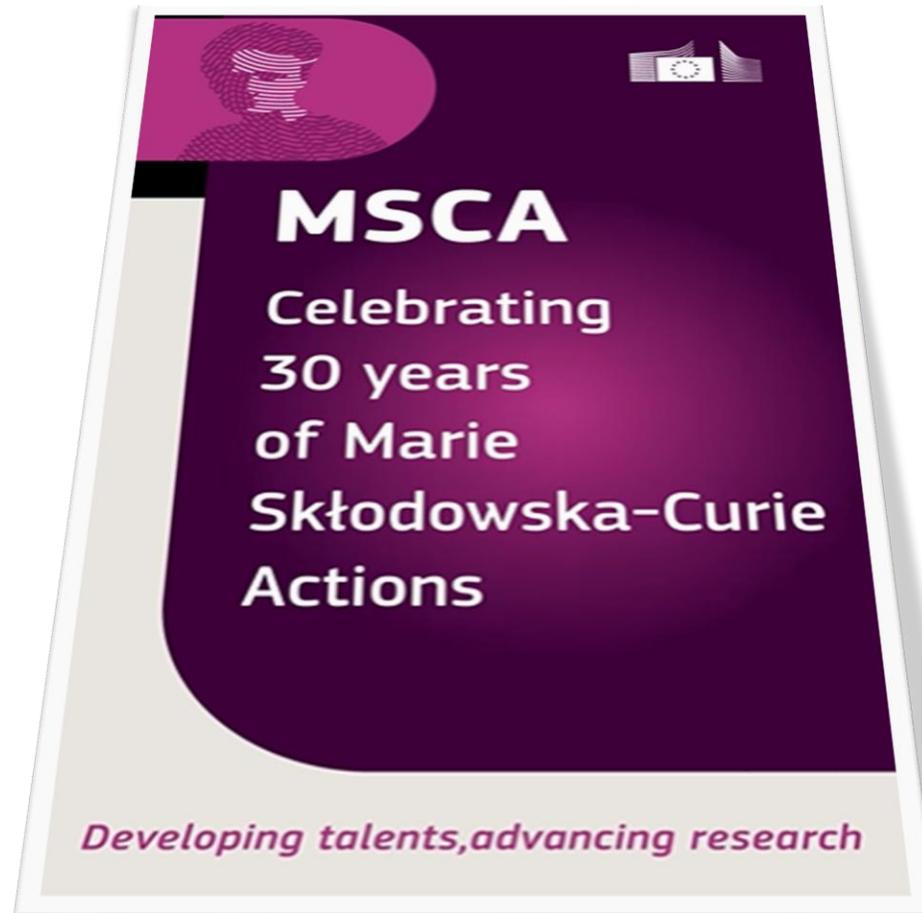
- Increased to €2,870 per month

Research Enquiry Service

For questions about Research and Horizon Europe
Please contact the [Research Enquiry Service \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

Questions and answers

LinkedIn @REA_research
@MSCAActions





Thank you!

LinkedIn:

[Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions | LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/marie-sklodowska-curie-actions)

Website:

<https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/about-msca>

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<https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/eac/user-subscriptions/2309/create>



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