



UK Research Office
Brussels



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

ERC Synergy Grant 2023 Call

UK NCP Information Event Session 1:
Introduction, UK participation, eligibility
criteria and proposal development

27 June 2022

ERC-UK@ukro.ac.uk



What will be covered in this session?

More content in the second session later this week. Make sure you register for that.



Introduction to UKRO & UK Participation



Overview of the ERC



Eligibility criteria for Synergy Call



Proposal development



Q&A

Housekeeping

All participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar.

A chat function is available and will be monitored.

Please use the Q&A function to submit questions.

You can 'up vote' your favourite questions.

We will be recording this session.

Slides will be shared after the webinar on the event page.



Who is who

Presenter

- *Dr Phil Holliday*
European Advisor, ERC National Contact Point

Moderator

- *Dr Branwen Hide*
Senior European Advisor and UKRO NCP coordinator



About UKRO

We support UK organisations involved in EU R&I funding

UK National Contact Point for ERC and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Unique partnership between UKRI and subscribing organisations

Provide a service to more than 140 subscribing organisations

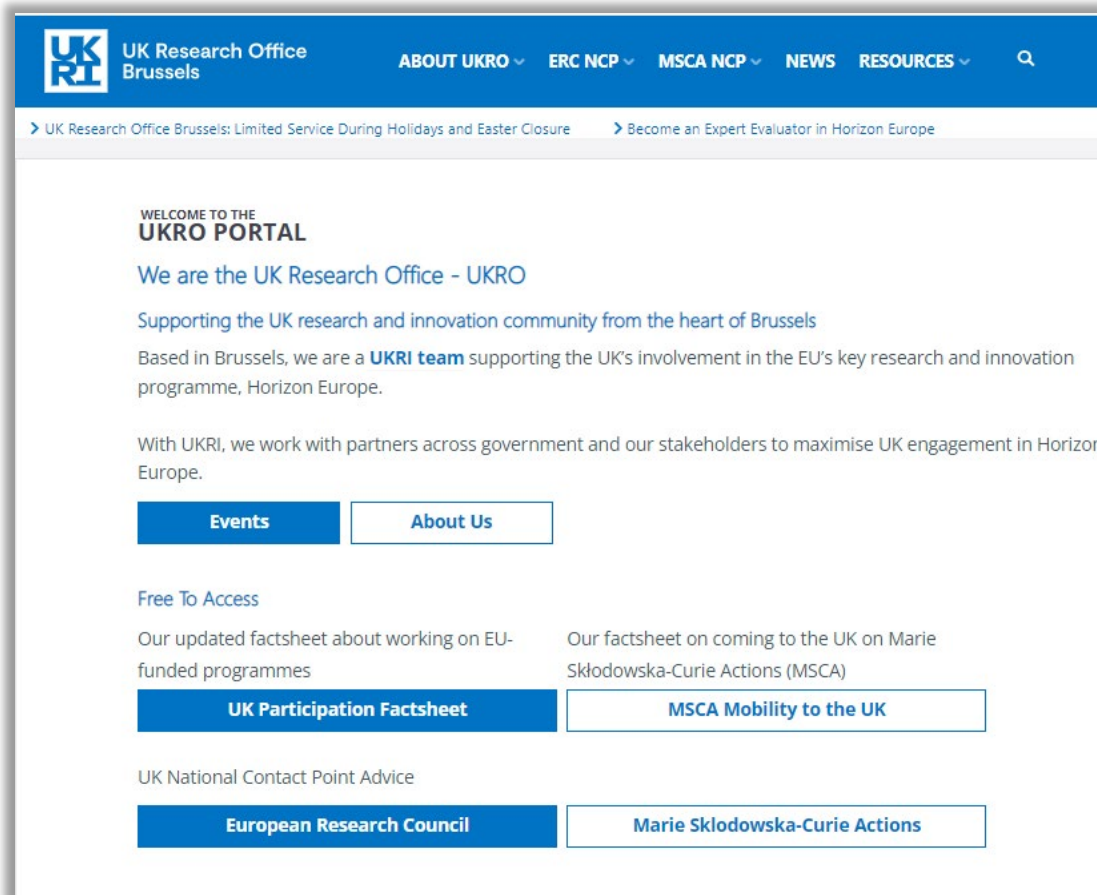
A Brussels-based team of advisors

Part of UKRI's wider International team



UKRO Portal www.ukro.ac.uk

Sign up for free for the latest news, opportunities and training on European funding



The screenshot shows the UKRO Portal homepage. At the top is a blue navigation bar with the UKRI logo and the text 'UK Research Office Brussels'. To the right of the logo are menu items: 'ABOUT UKRO', 'ERC NCP', 'MSCA NCP', 'NEWS', and 'RESOURCES', each with a dropdown arrow. A search icon is also present. Below the navigation bar is a white banner with two links: '> UK Research Office Brussels: Limited Service During Holidays and Easter Closure' and '> Become an Expert Evaluator in Horizon Europe'. The main content area has a heading 'WELCOME TO THE UKRO PORTAL' followed by the text 'We are the UK Research Office - UKRO' and 'Supporting the UK research and innovation community from the heart of Brussels'. Below this is a paragraph: 'Based in Brussels, we are a UKRI team supporting the UK's involvement in the EU's key research and innovation programme, Horizon Europe.' Another paragraph follows: 'With UKRI, we work with partners across government and our stakeholders to maximise UK engagement in Horizon Europe.' There are two buttons: 'Events' (highlighted in blue) and 'About Us'. Below this is a section titled 'Free To Access' with two columns of content. The first column has the text 'Our updated factsheet about working on EU-funded programmes' and a blue button labeled 'UK Participation Factsheet'. The second column has the text 'Our factsheet on coming to the UK on Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)' and a white button labeled 'MSCA Mobility to the UK'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'UK National Contact Point Advice' with two buttons: 'European Research Council' (highlighted in blue) and 'Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions'.

- Tailored news articles on EU funding and policy
- Search engine with refiners and tags
- Personalised daily or weekly alerts to your inbox.
- [Factsheets](#) on Horizon Europe and other funding streams
- [Webinars](#) on lots of topics about Horizon Europe, how to apply, how to run a project and more.
- [Click here to find out more](#)

Have a look at our recently added:

- [Article series on Horizon Europe Novelities](#)
- [ERC webinars](#)
- [MSCA webinars](#)

It's easy to [create your account](#) and set up email updates.



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UK Participation in Horizon Europe

UK-EU Trade and
Cooperation Agreement



UK participation in Horizon Europe

In December 2020, the negotiations on the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement were concluded

The [announcement](#) sets out the UK's intention to **associate to Horizon Europe**

Includes **full participation in the programme** with only exception of the EIC Fund*

*non-mandatory equity element of one EIC scheme

UK entities can participate in/coordinate projects and receive funding from Horizon Europe, incl. MSCAs

UKRO [website](#) provides latest info on UK participation



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UK participation in Horizon Europe

[European Commission's Q&A](#) confirms UK eligibility to apply:

"UK entities including universities, research centres, scientists, innovative businesses, industry, etc. can participate in the first calls for proposals of Horizon Europe as soon as they are published on the European Commission's website."

"...UK applicants are treated as if the UK is an associated country throughout the process, from admissibility and eligibility to evaluation, up until the preparation of grant agreements."



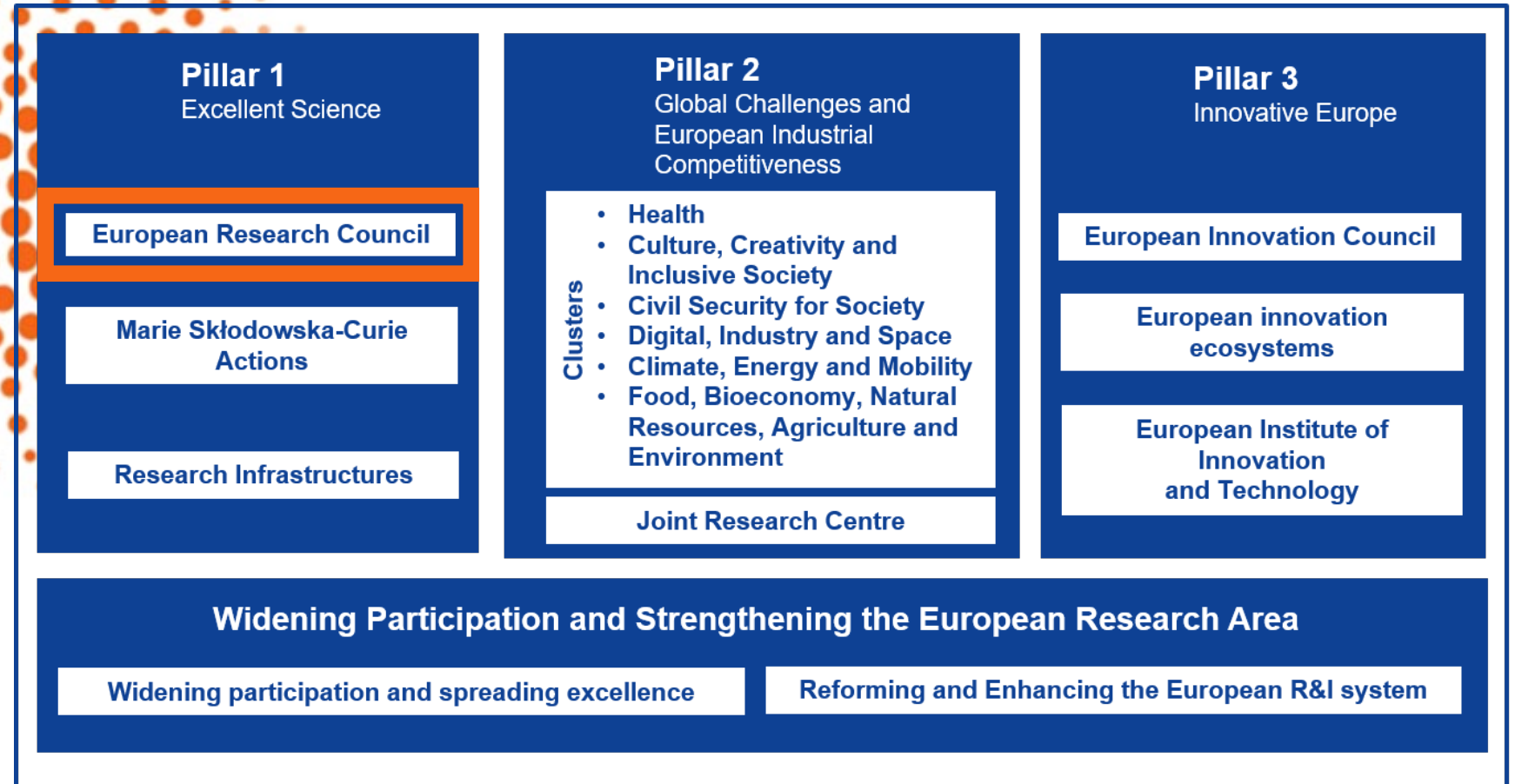
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Introduction to the ERC



Horizon Europe structure



What is the ERC?

The ERC's mission:

- encourage the highest quality research in Europe
- support investigator-driven frontier research *across all fields*
- fund projects *purely* on the basis of *scientific excellence*

What makes the ERC unique:

- Excellence is the only criteria
- Funding split based on number of applications, *not* field/discipline/topic
- Freedom to work with and fund team members from anywhere in the world



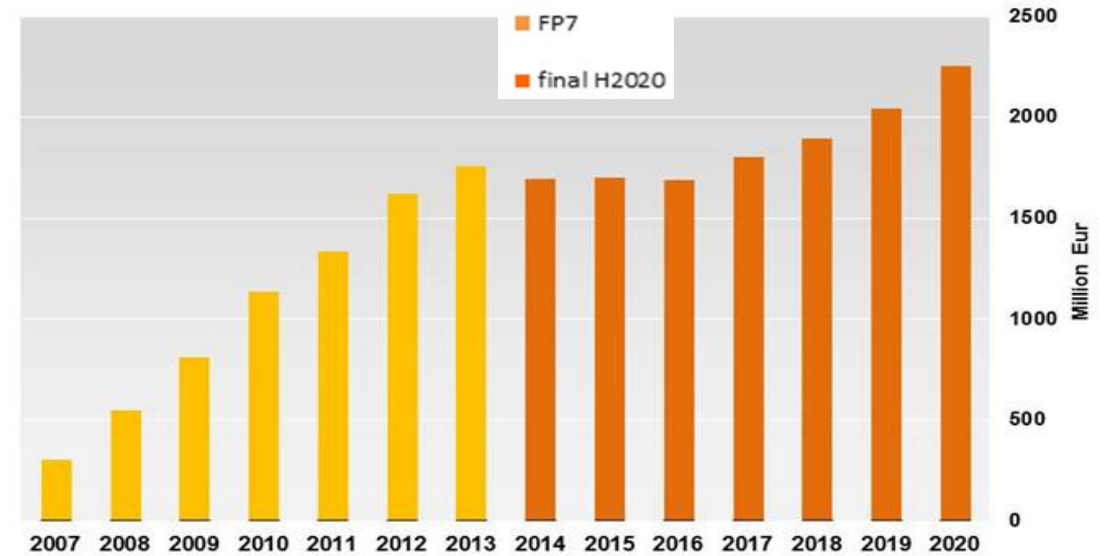
BOTTOM-UP, CURIOSITY-LED EXCELLENT RESEARCH

ERC Budget in Horizon Europe

26% increase in real terms compared to Horizon 2020.

Further budget increase expected once Associated Countries formally join.

Horizon Europe structure is represented below with each section proportionate to budget allocation size.



ERC BUDGET: €16 Billion

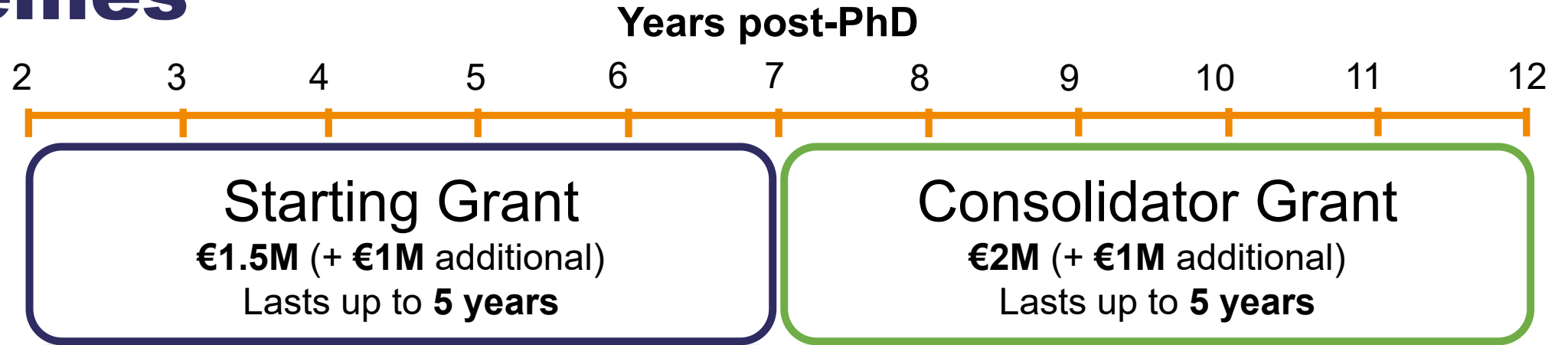
Pillar 1 Excellent science

Pillar 2 Global challenges

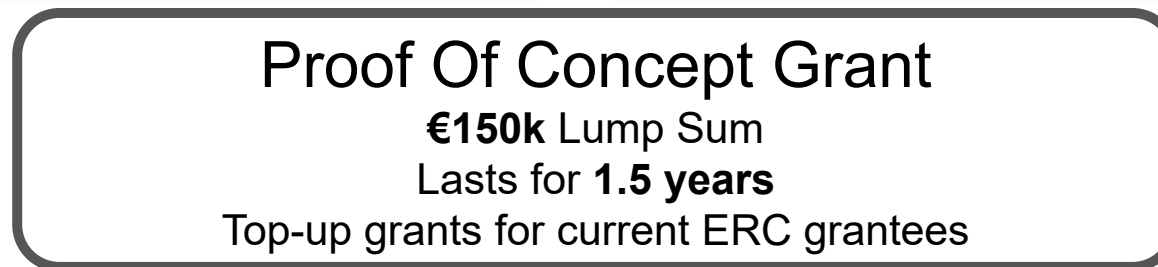
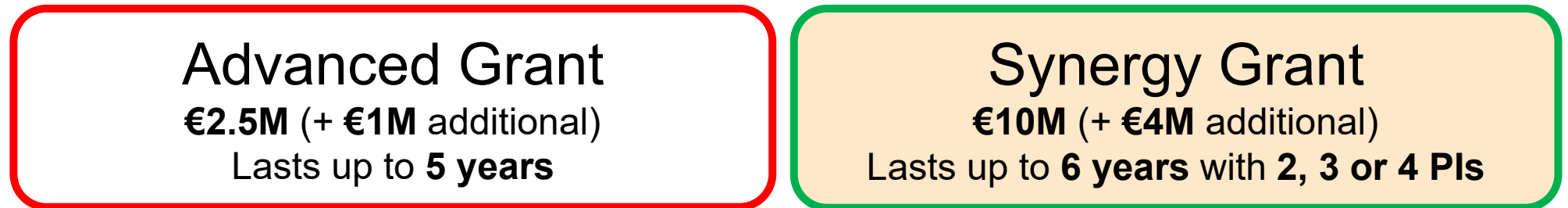
Pillar 3 Innovative Europe

Pillar 4

ERC Grant Schemes



No PhD Requirements



You can only be a PI on one ERC grant at a time

Types of research funded

Proposals:

- can be in **ANY** field of research
- must be **very ambitious** in risk and in scope
- Based around a **central Principal Investigator**, who can be supported by “team members”
- “**Frontier research**” aiming for breakthroughs not incremental advances
- **judged only on the scientific excellence of**
 - the proposed project and
 - the Principal Investigator

More in part 2 of this webinar series on the evaluation criteria, including how panels and external experts evaluate proposals



What is special about Synergy?

Synergy: Integrated, complementary know-how and approaches contributed by PIs in the group

Joint effort to achieve something the PIs could not on their own

Small, flexible group:
PIs decide who they need to work with.

Any PI can join with others as equals
to carry out excellent Frontier research,
any career stage/discipline



ERC 2023 Calls

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant	Proof of Concept
Call Type	ERC-2023-StG	ERC-2023-CoG	ERC-2023-AdG	ERC-2023-SyG	ERC-2023-PoC
Call Opens	12/07/2022	28/09/2022	08/12/2022	13/07/2022	20/10/2022
Deadline	25/10/2022	02/02/2023	23/05/2023	08/11/2022	24/01/2023 20/04/2023 14/09/2023
Budget	€749 M	€776 M	€555 M	€297 M	€25 M



ERC Panel Structure

Physical Sciences & Engineering	Life Sciences	Social Sciences & Humanities
<p>PE1 Mathematics</p> <p>PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter Particle</p> <p>PE3 Condensed Matter Physics</p> <p>PE4 Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences</p> <p>PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials</p> <p>PE6 Computer Science and Informatics</p> <p>PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering</p> <p>PE8 Products and Processes Engineering</p> <p>PE9 Universe Sciences</p> <p>PE10 Earth System Science</p> <p>PE11 Materials Engineering *</p>	<p>LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms, Structures & Functions</p> <p>LS2 Integrative Biology: Integrative Biology: From Genes and Genomes to Systems</p> <p>LS3 Cellular, Developmental and Regenerative Biology</p> <p>LS4 Physiology in Health, Disease and Ageing</p> <p>LS5 Neuroscience and Disorders of the Nervous System</p> <p>LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy</p> <p>LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases</p> <p>LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution</p> <p>LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering</p>	<p>SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations</p> <p>SH2 Institutions, Governance and Legal Systems</p> <p>SH3 The Social World and its Diversity</p> <p>SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity</p> <p>SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production</p> <p>SH6 The Study of the Human Past</p> <p>SH7 Human Mobility, Environment, and Space *</p>

****These two panels are new additions, they will be in place for the 2021 calls onwards***

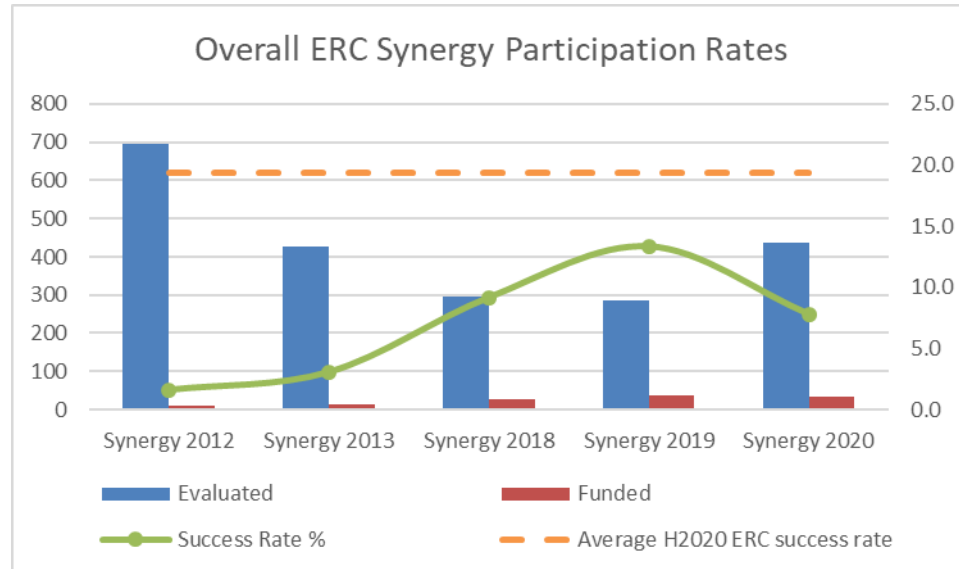
ERC Panel Structure

Physical Sciences & Engineering	Life Sciences	Social Sciences & Humanities
PE1 Mathematics	LS1 Molecules of Life: Biological Mechanisms,	SH1 Individuals, Markets and Organisations
PE2 Fur		Legal
PE3 Co		ity
PE4 Ph		exity
PE5 Sy		n
PE6 Co		
PE7 Sy		
PE8 Products and Processes Engineering	LS6 Immunity, Infection and Immunotherapy	and Space*
PE9 Universe Sciences	LS7 Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases	
PE10 Earth System Science	LS8 Environmental Biology, Ecology and Evolution	
PE11 Materials Engineering*	LS9 Biotechnology and Biosystems Engineering	

No predetermined Panels in ERC Synergy Calls.
 Instead evaluation panels are set up to fit submitted proposals.
 More on this in Wednesday's session.

***These two panels are new additions, they will be in place for the 2021 calls onwards**

Participation Statistics for ERC Synergy Grant



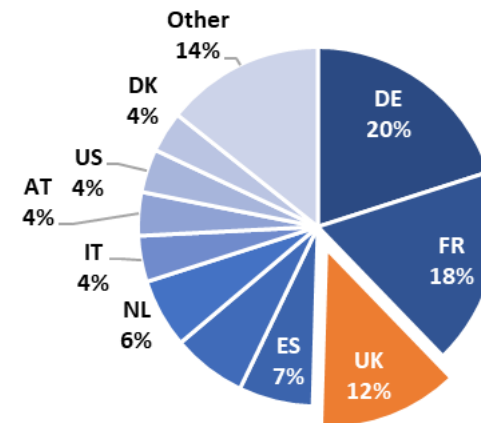
Synergy scheme is newer than the other ERC schemes and has been allocated smaller budgets.

The call has been in its current form since 2018, since then overall success rates have been at a higher level.

Although the number of projects funded is relatively small, each project involves multiple PIs so a Synergy project is larger.

UK's Synergy Grant track record during in Horizon 2020

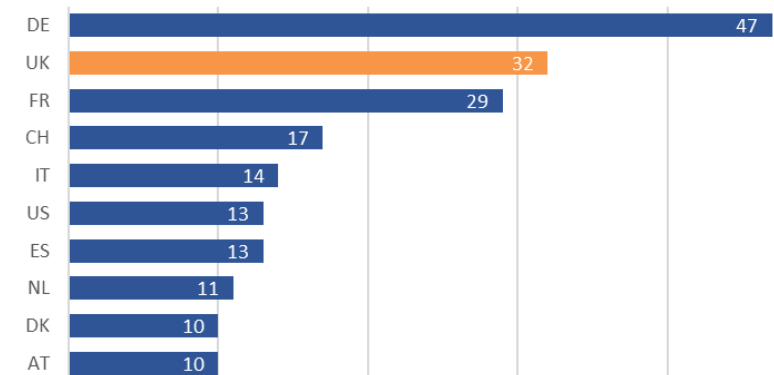
ERC Synergy PIs Hosted per Country



Many Synergy grants have international PI groups, in that sense comparing projects by their countries can be misleading.

We can see that the UK is **3rd most popular** host-country for Synergy PIs

Projects with 1+ UK-hosted PI over its lifetime (top ten)



UK-hosted PIs are commonly part of these collaborative teams

32 of the 95 Synergy Grants awarded under H2020 had at least one UK-hosted PI.

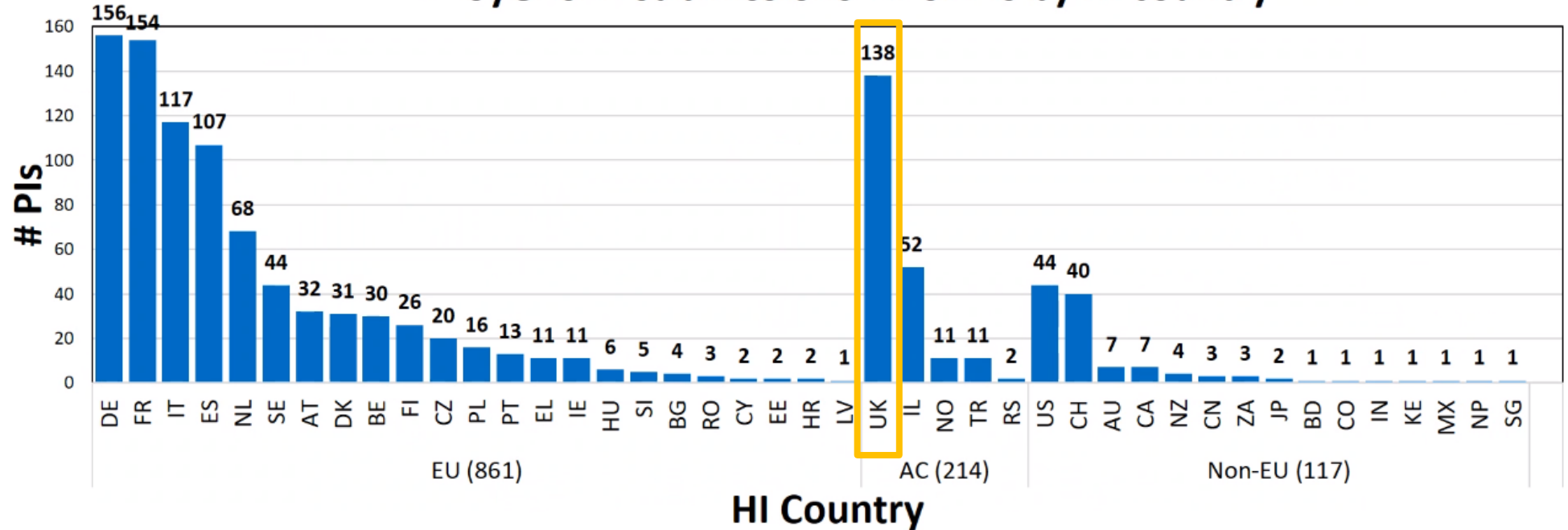
Early info from 2022 SyG evaluation

359 proposals submitted,
(19% decrease compared to 2020)

3.3 PIs per project on average
(Consistent with previous calls)

8% success rate
expected

SyG2022 submissions - # of PIs by HI country



Covid-19 and ERC

For Synergy call, ERC have specified that they expect **all PIs to attend the interview in person.**

2023 Synergy Call
Interviews
understood to be
scheduled for
Autumn 2023

Standard ERC flexibility for COVID-19 disruption

- Possible to postpone project start date by 6 months
- Possible to extend duration of project by 6 months or further on case by case basis
- Flexibility on teleworking and time commitments (notify ERCEA)

Remember – EU financial contribution to the project cannot be raised

Find out more on the ERC website

[Coronavirus – business continuity measures at the ERC](#)

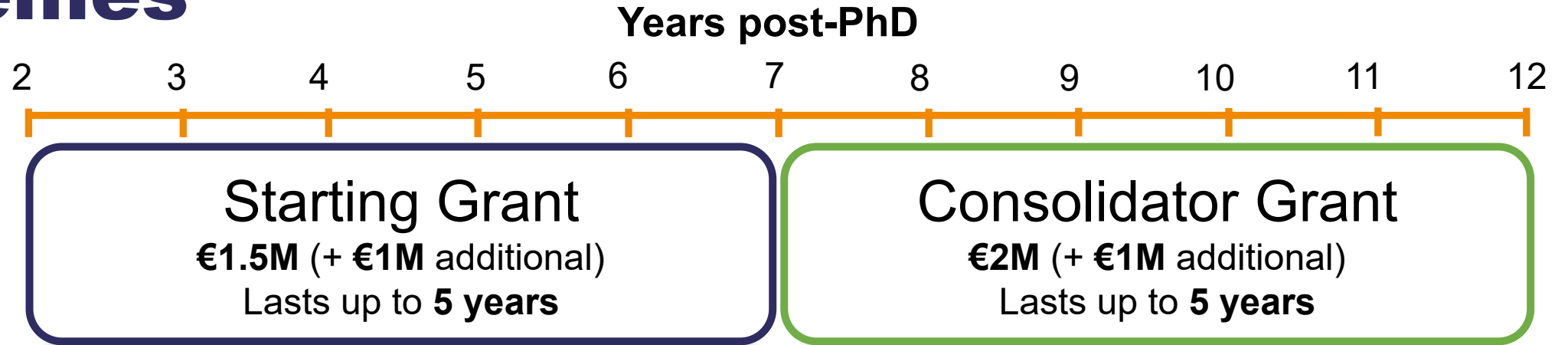


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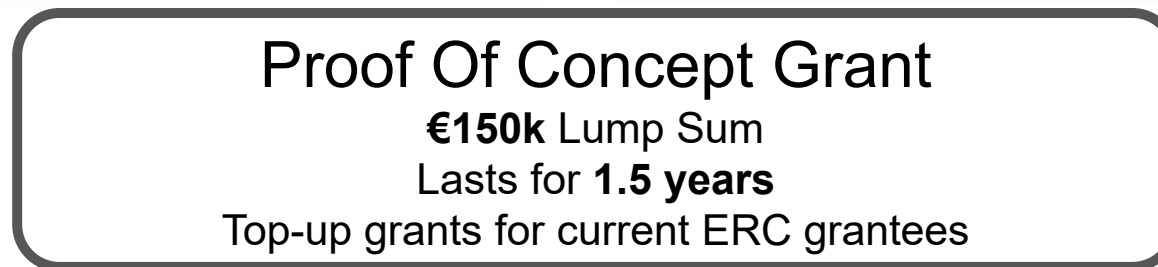
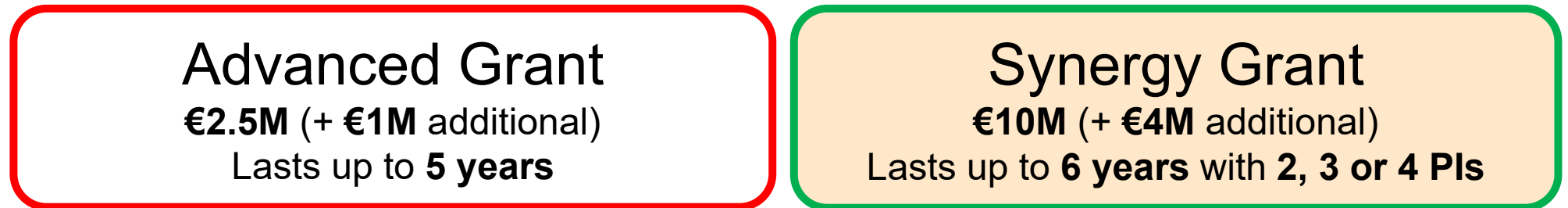
ERC Eligibility Criteria



ERC Grant Schemes



No PhD Requirements



You can only be a PI on one ERC grant at a time

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 or Associated Country willing to host them.

Calculated as an average across entire project duration, can vary to a degree year on year

Grant Type	Minimum % of Working Time on Grant	Minimum % of time in EU Member State/Associated Country*	Years since PhD Award
Starting	50	50	2-7
Consolidator	40	50	7-12
Advanced	30	50	N/A
Synergy	30/40/50*	50	N/A

* Minimum time requirement is 30% but evaluators will look at your profile (e.g. over 50% recommended for Starting profile)

* Fieldwork/work abroad related to the ERC project does not count against time commitment

Principal Investigators' minimum grant time commitments

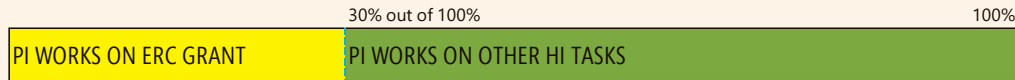
Minimum 30% working time working on the ERC grant

- All percentages are established by reference to the full time equivalent at the host institution (see below) or 1720 hours per year.

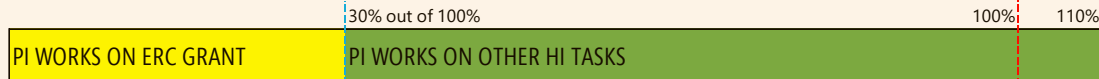
Minimum 50% time spent in Europe (Member State or Associated Country)

- Fieldwork/work abroad related to the ERC project does not count against time commitment

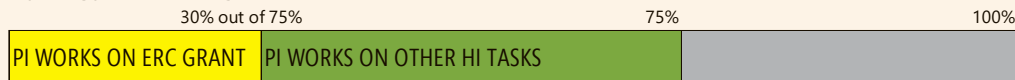
Synergy PI with FTE Contract



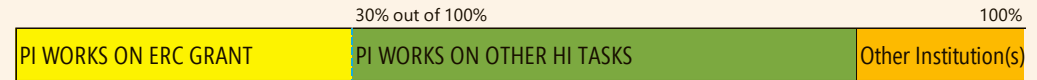
Synergy PI working more than the 100% (FTE) ceiling



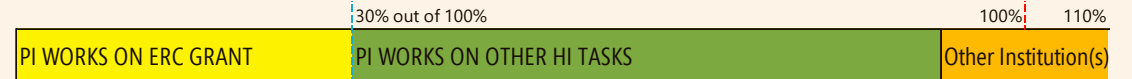
Synergy PI working part-time - time commitments are pro-rata (% of part-time contract)



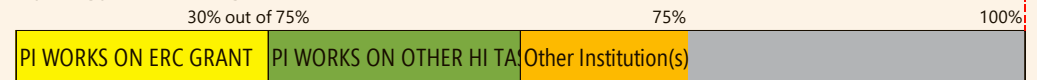
Synergy PI with FTE Contract split between the HI and other institutions



Synergy PI working more than the 100% (FTE) ceiling split between the HI and other institutions



Synergy PI working part-time, split between the HI and other institutions



Synergy Group Eligibility

2, 3 or 4 PIs

1 designated as
“corresponding PI”.
*Nothing added in their role,
they communicate with EC*

PI group
can be a mix of
different career
stages

Max. 1 PI
can be hosted
outside
EU/Associated
Countries

PIs are evaluated
individually
and
as a group

If one PI cannot
carry out the
project, they
cannot be replaced

Remember the [European Commission's Q&A](#) sets that the UK is treated as an associated country.



Applying to be a PI with a Starting/Consolidator profile

The same eligibility periods and PI profile evaluation criteria apply as it would in a Starting/Consolidator application. Look up in the ERC Work Programme

NEW CHANGE 2023: PhD award date that the ERC uses to calculate whether you are in the eligibility window:



The documented date of the **last successful defence of their PhD degree**. Find out when that different date was in your case and request documents early – you may need to contact awarding institution



Not the award date, PhD certificate or any other rules set by national policy or awarding institution.



Host Institutions Eligibility



Can be any type of legal entity
(university, business, public body, NGO etc.)



Must be based in the territory of an
EU Member State or Associated Country



Has the infrastructure and capacity to allow the PI to
independently direct the research and manage ERC funding



Must not constrain the PI to the institution's research strategy.
PI has the right to transfer the grant to another institution.



Must 'engage' the PI for project duration, if grant is successful



Not assessed as a separate criterion during peer review but
must sign a letter of commitment as part of application



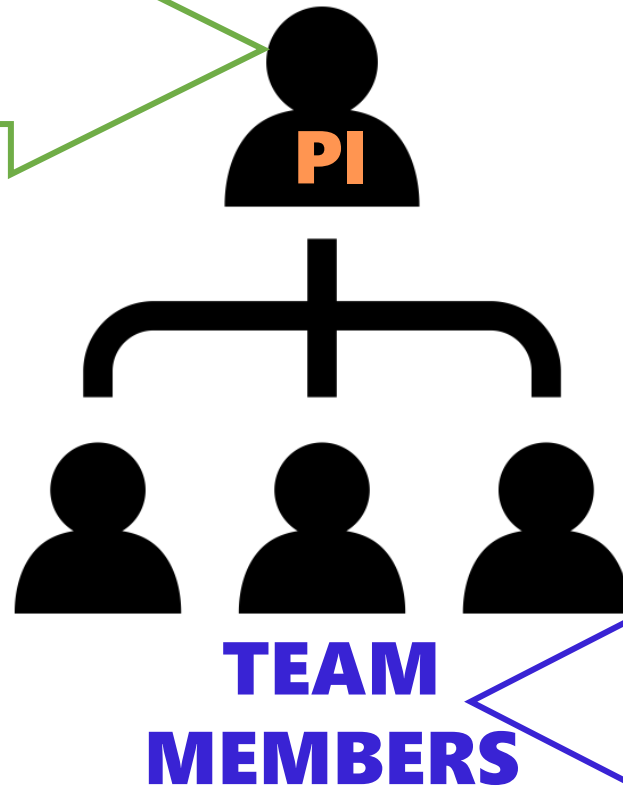
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If funded, the HIs will

- sign up to the **Grant Agreement**
- sign a **'Supplementary Agreement'** with the PI

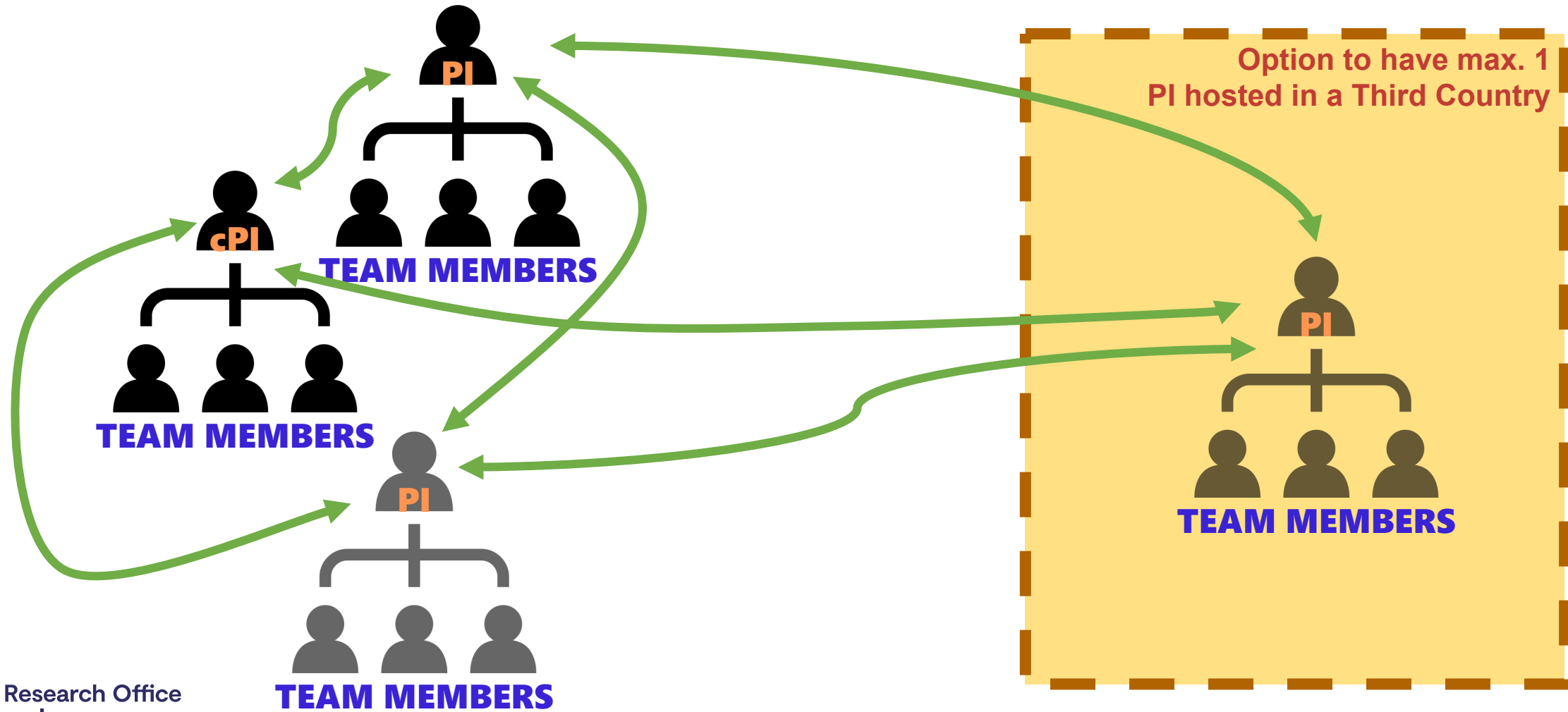
Principal Investigators leading Team Members

- 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
- Evaluators reject proposals where the PI is overshadowed by any team members



- Team members cannot be co-investigators
- **Assigned to specific project outputs/tasks**
- Should not have purely supervisory/mentor roles
- Can be **research staff at any level** (including technicians and project managers)
- Of any age, nationality or country of residence
- Can be based **at the Host Institution or any other organisation** in the world
- **EU funded**, even outside member states or associated countries

Principal Investigators in Synergy Grant Groups



What kind of team members can be in an ERC project?

Depending on the nature of a project the research team may involve team members from other research organisations situated in the same or a different country.

[2022 ERC Work Programme](#)



Only 2-4 PIs

evaluated in proposal according to the broadly defined work programme (no prescribed job title)

1 - 4 Host Institutions

(a SyG group can be on the same corridor or opposite ends of the world)

More in Session 2
about adding organisations other than the Host Institution on the EC portal (other beneficiaries or third parties)

PI designs and chooses their team according to the needs of the project



Third Country

Can my team include:

Researchers at any career stage?

YES, from PhD to Professor etc, as long as the PI is clearly leading the project.

Non-academic/administrative team-members?

YES, if they are justified and help to carry out the objectives

Team members based in other organisations?

YES, if they are justified and help to carry out the objectives



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Difference between a Synergy Group and other Horizon Europe consortia

“It is of utmost importance not to confuse the term 'synergy' and its requirements with the concepts and the terminology of other parts of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme [...]

Support for consortia is provided by other calls under Horizon Europe.”

Synergy Group is:

- PIs (and their teams) that are capable of tackling bold research themes requiring novel approaches
- Research teams are typically characterised by exceptional combinations of knowledge and skills
- The collaborative element is expected to add a creative layer of excellence making the group greater than sum of its parts
- Principal Investigators hold a central role

Synergy Group is not:

- Loose cooperation: e.g. essentially separate projects with networking links/events
- Simply passing data or information from one team to another
- Long-established approaches to collaborating
- Agreement between organisations with staff participating. It must be led by each PI, who can still move the grant elsewhere

Proposal Development



1-step submission for a 3-step evaluation

Part A is filled in online. B1, B2 and annexes are uploaded as PDFs. All submitted together at the call deadline

More detail on the 3-step evaluation process in the second webinar session.

Part A

Administrative Forms and Abstract

- General information
- Participating Institutions
- Budget & Description of Resources
- Ethics & security questionnaire

Part B1

Proposal Overview and profile of each Principal Investigator

- Cover page and summary
- Extended Synopsis (5 pages)
- 2 - 4 CVs (2 pages)
- 2 - 4 Funding IDs (no page limit)
- 2, 3 or 4 Track Records (2 pages)

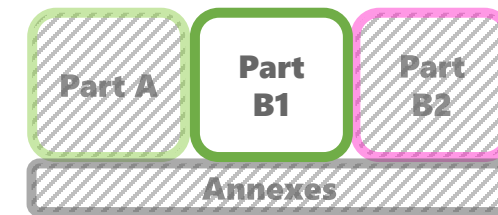
Part B2

Detailed Research Proposal

- State of the art and objectives
- Methodology (Total of 15 pages)
- Resources and time commitment, including project costs (does not count towards page limit)

Annexes

Host Institution Letters, Ethics, Eligibility Documents



Part B1

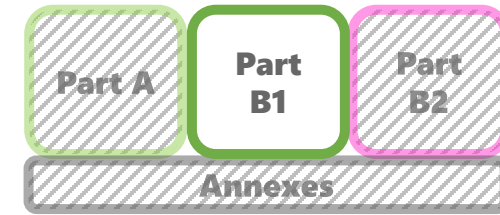
- **Strict formatting requirements:**

Page Format	Font Type	Font Size	Line Spacing	Margins
A4	Times New Roman, Arial or similar	At least 11	Single	2cm Side 1.5cm Bottom

- **Cover Page (info repeated from Part A)**
- **Extended Synopsis (5 pages)**
- **CVs (2 pages)**
- **Track Records (2 pages)**
- **Funding IDs (no page limit)**

More detail on formatting and specifics of Part B1 in Session 2

Writing the Extended Synopsis



Self-contained

- **All the essential info** about your idea in **5 pages**
- **Describe where the novelty lies** – what is the state-of-the-art and how does this proposal go further?
- Your synopsis should be **referenced**, not counted towards page limits
- Must contain all relevant information and some details about **combination of the PI's scientific approaches** to show feasibility of the scientific proposal and the know-how (**skills, experience, expertise, disciplines and teams**) of the group

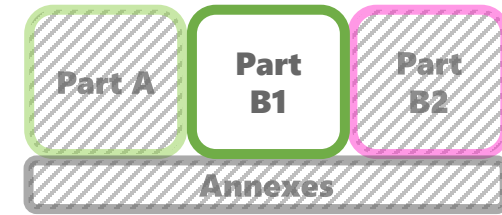
Persuasive to generalists

- A variety of **experts acting as generalists** come to a collective decision of whether to pass the proposal to Step 2 – so **be concise and clear without jargon**
- **Persuade them the idea and scientific approach are feasible** – include just enough and don't give a reason to reject!
- Demonstrate that the proposals goes **beyond what individual PIs** could achieve alone

Entertaining!

- Sell your idea - the synopsis should **grab the panellists' attention**
- Your idea should be ambitious – be explicit about **high risk and potentially high gain**
- The description of novelty and ambition **should leave them curious to find out more detail** in Part B2 at Step 2 and the interview at Step 3

Things to think about: Extended Synopsis



Dual role: key text in stand-alone B1, then goes hand-in hand with the B2 full proposal. Make it work in both ways, not as a summary of the full proposal



Consider what excites you about the research and convey this in your application



Scientific Impact – you should be progressing the field of research beyond its current state.



Why is a group-based approach needed? Does the proposal highlight why your group's scientific elements are well suited to the project theme and objectives?

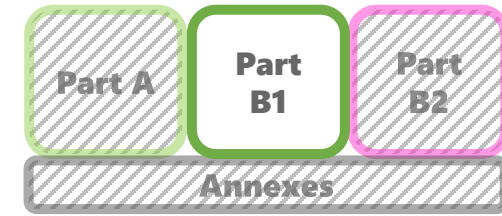


Timeliness and relevance should be shown throughout the project



Research aims should clearly link to the research objectives, which should clearly link to research methodology(ies)

Writing each PI's CV and Funding



Use the suggested template

- 2 page limit (including COVID-19 section)
- Be **concise and make sure the CV is laid out clearly**. Choose additional highlights wisely
- CV template can also give an indication of **how to build your track record for future ERC bids**

Career breaks, reduced capacity or unconventional career paths

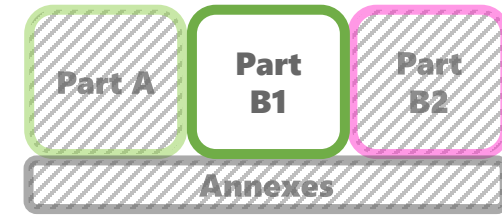
- Complement any eligibility extensions with a descriptions of **how/when you have been restricted**
- **What were able to achieve** despite these restrictions or thanks to this unconventional path?

Describe significance

- Adding concise descriptive captions can help explain why an entry is significant
- What experience can be flagged as independent, mature or showing leadership?
- Your story will be laid out in the track record, but you can lay the groundwork in the CV

Funding ID table lists your current grants and on-going/submitted grant applications. You will also have to briefly outline any scientific overlap with the ERC proposal. (This table will not count towards the page limits).

Things to think about: CV



Make your CV bespoke and well-suited to the ERC evaluation criteria



You can add brief notes about what an entry indicate about the PI – tell a story to generalist



Link your CV directly to the evaluation criteria profile and your role in the Synergy group



What was your contribution to key publications/activities?
Note that Journal Impact Factors will be disregarded, explain significance in other ways.



Make sure the CV is easy to read and cross-reference



Explain any career breaks/alternative career pathways



If applicable, use the new COVID-19 work disruption feature (multiple choice and short free text)

Writing Early Achievements/ 10-year Track-Record



Track Record Format

- 2 pages per PI
- Synergy Grant PIs can have different profiles depending on eligibility criteria (with extensions if applicable)
- Tell your story - provide a brief explanation of how each entry on the CV & Funding ID makes you an excellent potential PI
- Text should be directly related to the PI evaluation criteria
- Each PI evaluated against the benchmarks relevant to their career stage and the field of research
- The group is evaluated as a whole

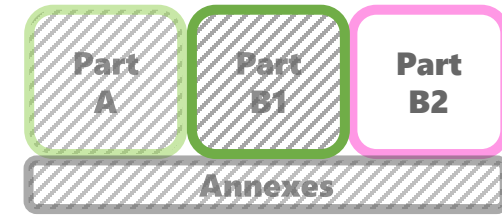
Early Achievements Track Record

- For PIs within 2-7 (Starting) and 7-12 years (Consolidator) after PhD
- 2023 Work Programme and Information for Applicants will set out the profiles (when officially published)
- Check [2022 ERC Work Programme](#) and [Information for Applicants](#) for preview, no changes expected (p19 for StG | p20 for CoG)
- Up to 5 publications for Starting profile, up to 10 publication for Consolidator
- Achievements are set according to early or mid career level. More emphasis on showing independence and potential for leadership

OR

10-year track record

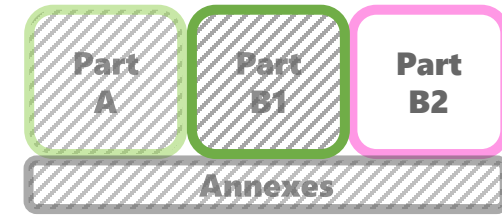
- Full AdG profile will be in the ERC Work Programme
- Check [2022 ERC Work Programme](#) and [Information for Applicants](#) for preview, no changes expected
- Up to 10 significant publications as main author in leading international peer-reviewed journals of their respective field, or in major international peer-reviewed multidisciplinary scientific journals
- 3 major research monographs (for research fields where monographs are the norm)
- Expectations set to research leader in terms of achievements and major contributions to the early career researchers



Part B2 (15 pages)

- **State of the art and objectives**
 - Objectives here become grant agreement objectives
- **Methodology**
 - Proposed methodology
 - Milestones and alternatives
 - Risk and mitigation
 - Project Management
 - Publication & Exploitation of results

Writing your State of the Art and Objectives in Part B2



Coherence with Part B1

- **Elaborate Part B1 coherently:** Explain precisely how you plan to achieve what you promised
- **You will have at least one expert reviewer in addition to the generalist panel members,** add technical detail that someone much closer to your field would need to know
- **Don't copy paste from Part B1.** Both parts are considered together at Step 2 so make them complementary

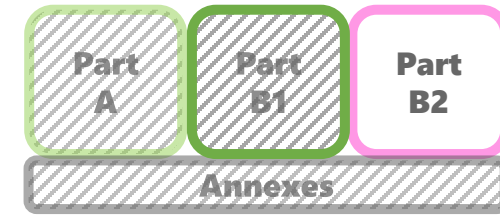
State of the art

- It should be clear **how and why the proposed work is important for the field**
- What **scientific impact** will your project have if successful? What new horizons or opportunities for science, technology or scholarship

Objectives

- Objectives should **fit context of the state-of-the-art** – they should match the ambition to go past the current frontier
- These objectives will become **part of the Grant Agreement** if successful – so the need to be feasible

Writing your Methodology in Part B2



Methodology

- Should be **extensive**, include the essential detail that an expert close to your field would need to know
- Describe significant synergies, complementarity and added value of the group
- Don't leave any reasons for the remote experts to raise doubts in the generalist panel
- Work plan should also be clear and **persuade evaluators that your group can carry out the logistics** of a long term project

Risk Mitigation Strategy

- Where possible **cover every risk with a mitigation strategy**
- **ERC accepts high risk** to hopefully reach high gain – but external experts and to some extent panellist can be more risk averse
- Show evaluators you are aware and considerate of issues and how to react but **be prepared to acknowledge unavoidable uncertainty** that comes with ambitious, new ideas

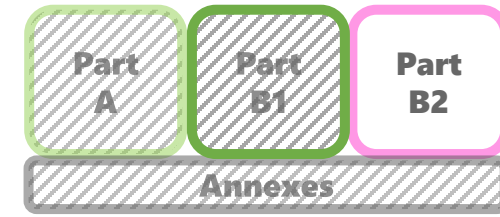
Your team

- The team members under each PI
- Be sure to show how you will be the **leader of your team** and central figure for your part of project, **alongside other PIs in leadership roles**
- **Explain what each team member will do** – these can be named people or roles specified for recruitment

Justify resources

- Be ambitious but every **part of the budget must have a place in the project and be linked to objectives**
- **Show resources put towards collaborative efforts between PIs**

Writing your Resources and Time Commitment in Part B2



Resources

- Describe the **size and nature** of the Synergy Group, indicating key members and their roles
- Specify any **existing resources** that will contribute to the project
- Describe and fully justify **other necessary resources**, such as infrastructure, equipment, travel costs, consumables, publication costs etc
- Describe and fully justify any 'additional funding' requested

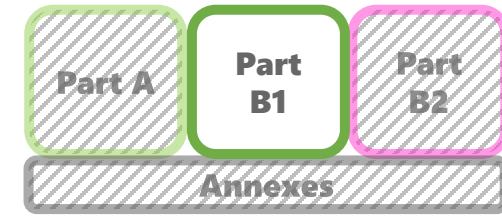
Time commitment

- Specify the time commitment of each PI
- **Minimum 30% working time per PI**
- Each PI can make a commitment above the minimum
- Experts will evaluate each time commitment separately based on the needs of the project and according to the profile of each PI

Budget table

- Use the budget table template in Part B2
- ERC will fund 100% eligible costs and a flat-rate 25% for indirect costs
- Any unjustified budgets will be cut by the panel members

Things to think about: The Scientific Proposal



Recap and **expand** on Part B1 introductory Extended Synopsis.



Detail the **current state of the art** in your field: highlight the achievements, challenges and gaps. How will your project go beyond these?



Explain how, and why, your project is important to the field and what **impact** and **implications** it will have if successful. Timeliness should be shown throughout.



Discuss the **challenges** and **unconventional aspects** of your project.



Coherence and **clear linkages** throughout proposal text: linking aims to budget via research methodologies. The better your proposal is organised the more feasible the project work plan will appear.



Any preliminary **data management plans** could add to the excellence of your scientific approach. The full data management plan is required by Month 6 if funded.

2 of 2 Information Webinar on ERC 2023 SyG Call

[Register for the 2nd Information Webinar on 29 June](#)

Webinar 2 (10:00 – 12:00 UK time)

- the submission process,
- how proposals are evaluated
- other elements to consider when designing a project for your group's big research idea.



Useful links

- [ERC 2022 SyG call on the Funding and Tenders portal](#)
- [ERC 2022 SyG Information for Applicants](#)
- [2022 PDF Application Form template](#) incl. B1, B2, CV and Host Institution Letter (editable versions will be Funding and Tenders Portal when it opens)
- [ERC Information System](#) and [Project database](#) to search through info about past Synergy Grant Projects
- [Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#)
- [Novelties in the Horizon Europe MGA](#) – Commission Stakeholder Workshop video





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Any questions?



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