

# Research opportunities for postdocs in Europe

---

SILVIA DANISE

MARIE CURIE RESEARCH FELLOW



# Outline

---

## 1. European Union Fellowships and Grants

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships
- ERC (European Research Council) grants

## 2. Private foundations

## 3. Relocating to Europe

SHARE

## An American Postdoc Abroad



By [Edward O'Brien](#) | Jan. 15, 2014 , 1:00 PM

“If you want to be successful in academia, you need to locate and choose the best and most appropriate training opportunities, wherever they might be.”

—Edward O'Brien

SHARE

## An American Postdoc Abroad



By [Edward O'Brien](#) | Jan. 15, 2014, 1:00 PM

Two reasons often cited for American postdocs' reluctance to go abroad is

- the fear of losing touch with the U.S. research community,
- that it can be harder to obtain a tenure-track position back home.

But I found that it was easy to stay in touch. Skype, and the many international meetings held in the United States, made it possible for me to interact face-to-face with other American scientists during the 5 years I spent overseas.

I was invited to interview for tenure-track positions at 10 U.S. universities over the course of my postdoc.

---

## EUROPEAN UNION FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

# European Union: 28 member countries

---





## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions



## INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS

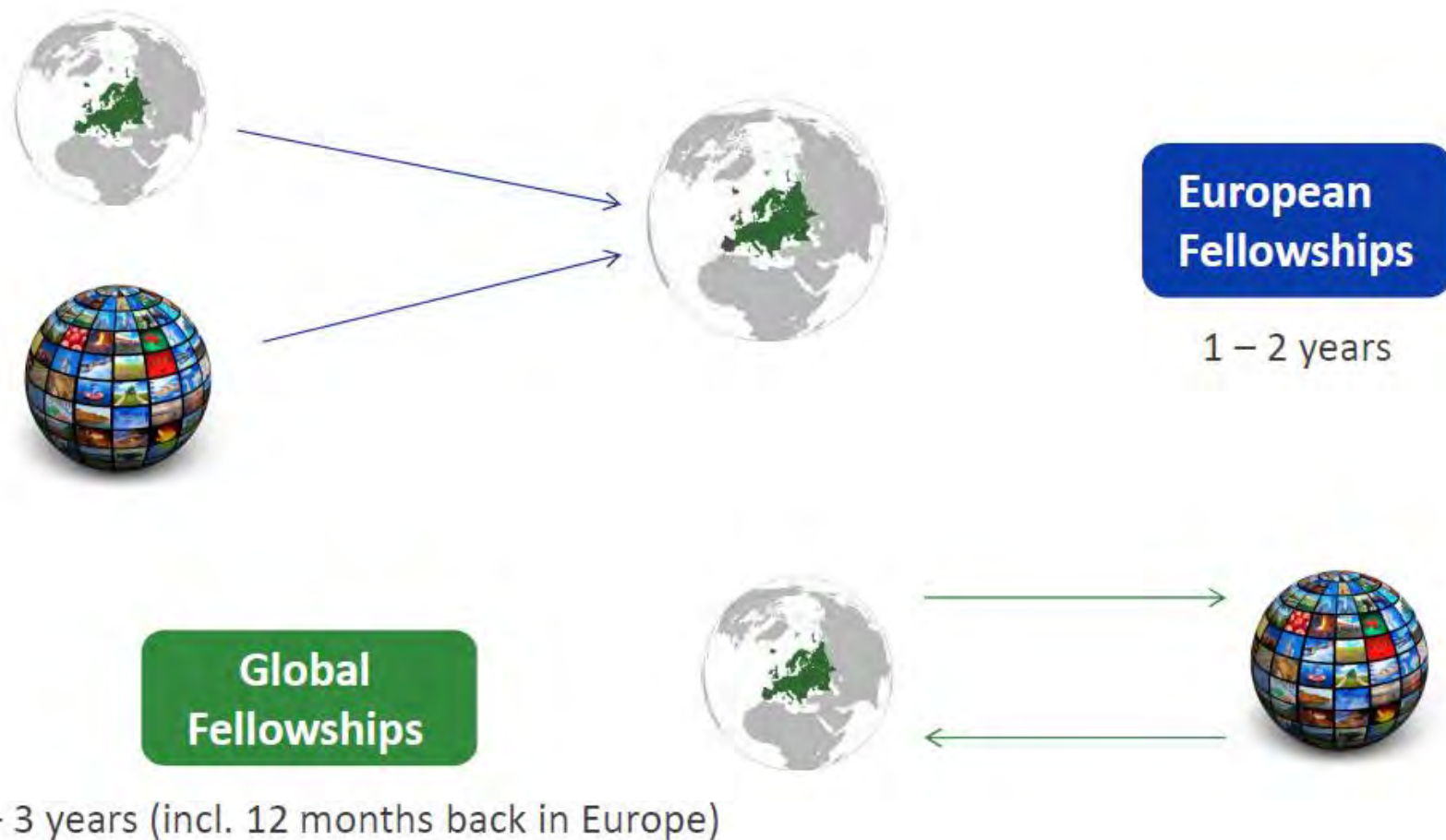
- Personal fellowships to support a period of mobility
- For Experienced Researchers
- No upper age limit
- No nationality limit
- Academic or non-academic host
- Fully funded – Salary, research costs etc.



## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

## 2 TYPES OF INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS







## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

# ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

1. The researcher must be an Experienced Researcher (ER):  
at the date of the call deadline, must be in possession of a doctoral degree
  - Parental leave periods do not count towards the time of research experience.
2. The researcher may be of any nationality. No age restrictions apply
3. The researcher must fulfill the mobility rule  
He/she must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the hosting institution for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the call deadline.



## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

### IN PRACTICE

- Aim of IF is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers, wishing to diversify their individual competence in terms of skill acquisition through advanced training, international and intersectoral mobility.
- The researcher prepares a proposal in liaison with the supervisor at the host organization.
- In addition to research objectives, **this plan comprises the researcher's training and career needs**, including training on transferable skills, planning for publications, participation in conferences and a Career Development Plan.

*The acquisition of new skills and advanced training is the key for successful proposals*



## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

### FUNDING MODEL

	Researcher unit cost in EUR person/month			Institutional unit cost in EUR person/month	
	Living Allowance	Mobility Allowance	Family Allowance	Research, training and networking costs	Management and indirect costs
<b>Individual Fellowships</b>	4,650	600	500	800	650

The living allowance is a gross EU contribution to the salary costs of the researcher. Consequently, the net salary results from deducting all compulsory (employer/employee) social security contributions as well as direct taxes (e.g. income tax) from the gross amounts.



## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

### THE PROPOSAL

PART 1 - Administrative Forms

PART 2

1

• Excellence (project & training)

2

• Impact (project & career)

3

• Quality of the implementation

4

• Researcher's CV

5

• Capacities of the host

6

• Ethics issues

10 pages  
max



## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

---

## TIMELINE

- One call every year
- Proposals must be submitted on or before Wednesday 14 September 2016
- Results available in February 2017
- Signing of the Grant Agreement in May 2017
- Start anytime after May

Contact your host ASAP, at least 3-4 months before the deadline!





European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

# Supporting top researchers from anywhere in the world

[Advanced Search](#) | [Glossary / A-Z](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Legal Notice](#)

[Home](#)[Funding and Grants](#)[Projects and Results](#)[Media and Events](#)[About ERC](#)[Contact us](#)[Funding Schemes](#)[Starting Grants](#)[Consolidator Grants](#)[Advanced Grants](#)[Proof of Concept](#)[Apply for Funding](#)[National Contact Points](#)[FAQ](#)

## Funding Schemes

Also available

(EN) ENGLISH

[Tweet](#)

European Research Council (ERC) funding schemes are open to top researchers of any nationality or age who wish to carry out their frontier research in the 28 EU Member States or associated countries.

There are 3 core funding schemes and one additional scheme for ERC grant holders.

### ERC Starting Grants

For top researchers with 2 to 7 years experience after PhD

Grants up to €1.5 million for 5 years

### ERC Consolidator Grants

For top researchers with 7 to 12 years experience after PhD

Grants up to €2 million for 5 years

### ERC Advanced Grants

For established researchers who have a recent research track-record which identifies them as leaders in their respective field of research

Grants up to €2.5 million for 5 years

### ERC Proof of Concept

For ERC grant holders only

Bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation

Grants up to €150,000

[Keep updated on the ERC](#)[Documents](#)

### Related content

#### Funding opportunities

[Proof of Concept 2016](#)

#### Publications

[ERC Grant Schemes](#)[More](#)

#### Useful documents

[ERC Work Programme 2016](#)[Information for applicants: Proof of Concept 2016](#)[Reference documents on Participant Portal](#)[Step by step to ERC Grants](#)

Related video





---

## PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS



home  
the  
fellowships  
how to apply  
the partners  
your  
questions  
alumni  
contact us

Are you at the beginning of your research career - with the potential to be world-class?

Is your research in the physical, natural or social sciences or humanities?

Do you want to build and maintain links with leading researchers in the UK?

Then apply for a Newton International Fellowship.

# UK

*no more than  
7 years of  
active full  
time  
postdoctoral  
experience*



# Germany

## Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers

### Description

### Application

### Sponsorship

### Partners

### FAQ

Submit an application if you are a researcher from abroad with above average qualifications, at the beginning of your academic career and only **completed your doctorate in the last four years**. A Humboldt Research Fellowship for postdoctoral researchers allows you to carry out long-term research (6-24 months) in Germany. Applicants choose their own topic of research and their academic host.

Scientists and scholars of all nationalities and disciplines may apply to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation online at any time. The Humboldt Foundation grants approximately 500 Humboldt Research Fellowships for postdoctoral researchers and **experienced researchers** annually. Short-term study visits, participation in congresses and training courses cannot be financed.

Academics from developing and emerging countries may be eligible to apply for a **Georg Forster Fellowship**.



Timeline of  
selection  
procedure

*no more than  
4 years of  
active full  
time  
postdoctoral  
experience*

# Website

---



---

RELOCATING TO EUROPE



# Tips for relocating

---

- Plan in advance: VISA and other docs can take a while
- English is widely spoken and is the official language in many universities.
- Establish links before your arrival: get help on opening bank accounts, rental agreements and other practical things.
- Travel light!
- Public transportation efficient and safe in all cities. You will not need a car!
- Publicly funded Health Care
- You will be immersed in culture and history: travelling between European countries is extremely cheap (low cost fly)



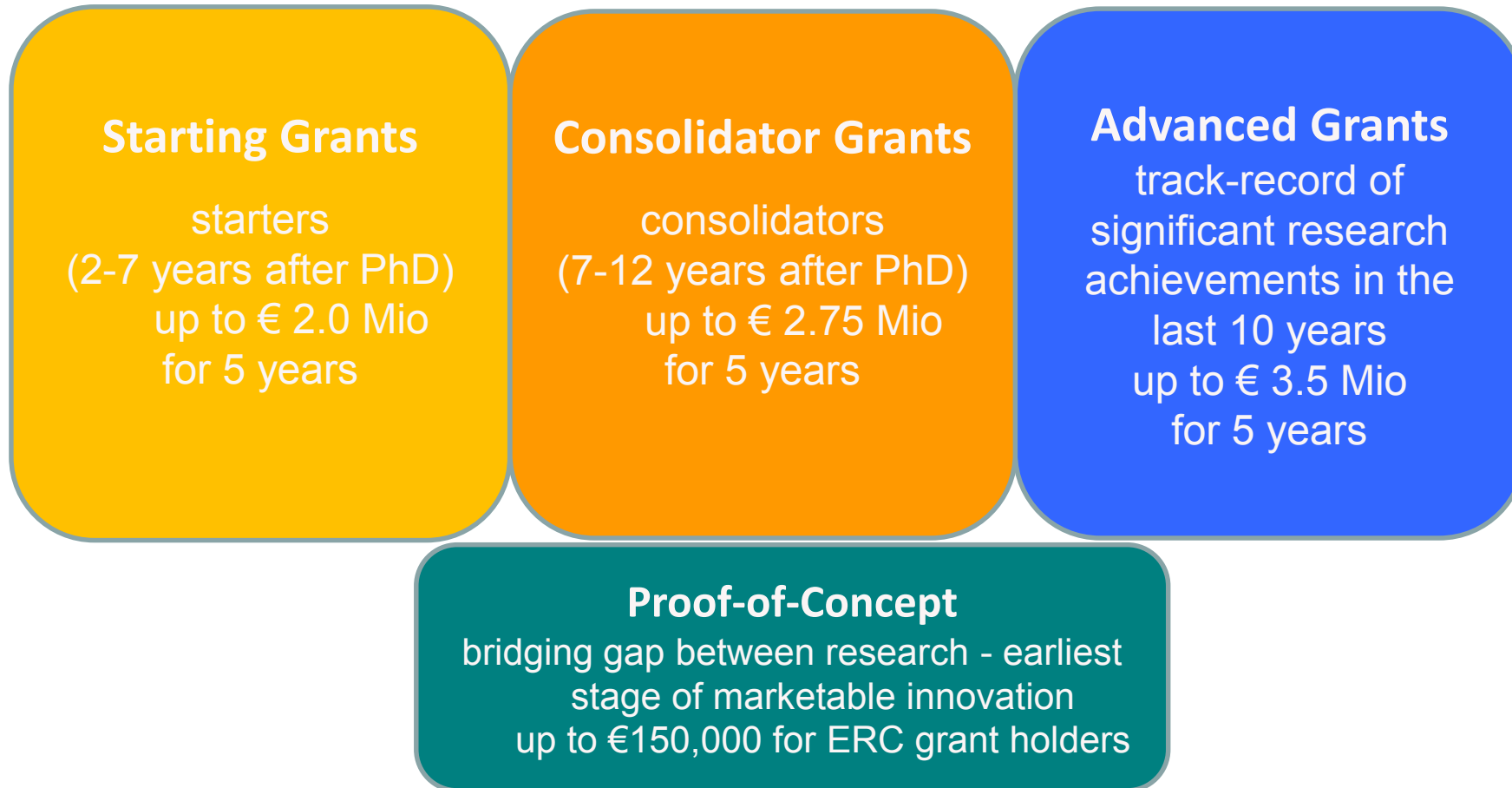
# Questions?

---

CONTACT ME [sdanise@uga.edu](mailto:sdanise@uga.edu)



---



# ERC Grant schemes





---

Research projects funded by the ERC can last up to five years and can cover frontier research  in any scientific domain , including social sciences, humanities and interdisciplinary studies. The grants may help both emerging research leaders ('ERC Starting Grants' and 'ERC Consolidator Grants') and already well-established and recognised scientists ('ERC Advanced Grants'). Find out more about the **different ERC grants**.

If you are moving to Europe (EU Member State  or Associated Country ), you can apply for additional funding, which can total up to €2 million for a Starting Grant (instead of €1.5 million for those already established in Europe), €2.75 million for a Consolidator Grant (instead of €2 million) and €3.5 million for an Advanced Grant (instead of €2.5 million).

- The scheme provides the opportunity for the best early stage ***post-doctoral researchers from all over the world*** to work at UK research institutions for a period of two years.
- The scheme covers the broad range of the ***natural and social sciences and the humanities***.
- Currently there is ***one round per year which opens in January***.

## Am I eligible to apply?

To be eligible you must:

- have a PhD, or will have a PhD by the time the funding starts
- ***have no more than 7 years of active full time postdoctoral experience*** at the time of application (discounting career breaks, but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry)
- be working outside the UK
- be competent in oral and written English
- have a clearly defined and mutually-beneficial research proposal agreed with a UK host scientist

## What is the scheme's value and tenure?

Funding consists of

- £24,000/year (2900\$/month) for subsistence costs
- Up to £8,000/year (11700\$/year) for research expenses
- A one-off payment of up to £2,000 (2900\$) for relocation expenses
- A contribution to the overheads incurred, at a rate of 50% of the total award to the visiting researcher

---

## Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers

Candidates are selected solely on the basis of ***the evaluation of their academic qualification:***

E.g. academic record and academic performance to date; quality of key publications; originality and innovation potential of the suggested research outline

### **FOUND**

- Salary of 2,650 EUR/month (3000\$/month)
- Up to 500 EUR/month (570\$/month) for family allowances
- Up to 800 EUR/month (900\$/month) for research costs
- Language fellowship for an intensive German language course immediately prior to the actual period of research