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EUROPEAN UNION FOR ARMENIA



Implemented by
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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



MSCA

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Developing talents, advancing research

under
Horizon Europe



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARMENIAN
DIASPORA RESEARCHERS UNDER

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA- CURIE ACTIONS



MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS (MSCA)

MSCA IS A PART OF EU'S 9TH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME ON FUNDING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION – HORIZON EUROPE.

There are 5 types of MSCA targeting different objectives:

Doctoral Networks (DN).

Supporting programmes to train doctoral candidates in academic and non-academic organisations [>>> find out more.](#)

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF).

Supporting career perspectives and excellence of postdoctoral researchers.

Staff Exchanges (SE)

Encouraging collaborations between organisations through staff exchanges [>>> find out more.](#)

COFUND Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes [>>> find out more.](#)

MSCA and Citizens

Bringing research and researchers closer to the public at large [>>> find out more.](#)

EUROPEAN UNION



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MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS (PF)

The goal of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD and who wish to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to excellent researchers of **any nationality**. The scheme also encourages researchers to work on research and innovation projects in the non-academic sector and is open to researchers wishing to reintegrate in [Europe](#), to those who are displaced by conflict, as well as to researchers with high potential who are seeking to restart their careers in research.

Fellowships will be provided to excellent researchers, undertaking international mobility either to or between Europe (EU Member States or Horizon Europe [Associated Countries](#)), as well as to non-associated [Third Countries](#). Applications will be made jointly by the researcher and a beneficiary in the academic or non-academic sector.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Interested researchers submit an application together with a host organisation, which can be a university, research institution, business, SME or other organisation based in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. All disciplines are eligible for Postdoctoral Fellowships, including research areas covered by the Euratom Research and Training Programme.

Researchers interested in PFs:

- should have a PhD degree at the time of the deadline for applications. Applicants who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet formally been awarded the doctoral degree will also be considered eligible to apply
- must have a maximum of eight years experience in research, from the date of the award of their PhD degree, years of experience outside research and career breaks will not count towards the above maximum, nor will years of experience in research in third countries, for nationals or long-term residents of EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries who wish to reintegrate to Europe
- should comply with mobility rules: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organization (for European Postdoctoral Fellowships), or the host organisation for the outgoing phase (for Global Postdoctoral Fellowships) for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline

WHAT DOES THE FUNDING COVER?

The beneficiary receiving EU funding needs to recruit the researcher for the total period of the fellowship.

The EU provides support for the recruited researcher in the form of

- a living allowance
- a mobility allowance
- if applicable, family, long-term leave and special needs allowances

In addition, funding is provided for

- research, training and networking activities
- management and indirect costs

TYPES OF POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

There are 2 types of Postdoctoral Fellowships:

1. **European Postdoctoral Fellowships.** They are open to researchers moving within Europe or coming to Europe from another part of the world to pursue their research career. These fellowships take place in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country and can last between 1 and 2 years. Researchers of any nationality can apply.
2. **Global Postdoctoral Fellowships.** They fund the mobility of researchers outside Europe. The fellowship lasts between 2 to 3 years, of which the first 1 to 2 years will be spent in a non-associated Third Country, followed by a mandatory return phase of 1 year to an organization based in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. Only nationals or long-term residents of the EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries can apply.

Both types of fellowships may also include **short-term secondments** anywhere in the world during the fellowship (except during the return phase of a Global Fellowship).

In an effort to build bridges between the academic and non-academic sector, researchers can receive **additional support to carry out a placement of up to 6 months** in a non-academic organisation based in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe Associated Country. This placement needs to take place at the end of their fellowship.

ERA FELLOWSHIPS (ERA-PF)

MSCA PF is a very competitive call and only top excellent proposals get funding. In this regard, there is another brilliant opportunity for Armenian researchers from Diaspora to come back to Armenia and perform research and innovation activities both for the benefit of researchers and Armenia - ERA Fellowships.

ERA PF

ERA-PF aim at mobility and brain circulation in [Widening Countries](#). The scheme is open to individual researchers of **any nationality** holding a PhD who wish to engage in R&I projects by either coming to a Widening Country from any country in the world or moving within Europe to a Widening Country.

The scheme will fund proposals submitted to the MSCA-2021-PF call with a beneficiary located in a Widening Country but which **failed to score highly enough to receive funding under this call**. Only European Postdoctoral Fellowships can qualify for the ERA-PF call (Global Postdoctoral Fellowships are excluded). All other eligibility and admissibility rules applicable to the **MSCA-2021-PF** call will apply.

Applicants can only be considered for this additional funding opportunity by ticking "YES" to the question *"Do you wish to participate to the ERA Postdoctoral Fellowships and thus increase your chances of being funded?"* in the application form. Applicants who do not reply, or tick "No" to the above question, will not be considered for the ERA-PF call (but will be evaluated and ranked under the MSCA-PF call, if eligible).

The only implementation difference with MSCA-PF is that researchers supported by the ERA Fellowships will not formally be considered as MSCA fellows.

MSCA PF CALL DEADLINE

Opening date: 22 June 2021

Deadline date: 12 October 2021

17:00:00 Brussels time

More info on the call and proposal submission:
[HORIZON-MSCA-2021-PF-01](#)



SUPPORT FOR MSCA PF APPLICATION

ALL INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY CONTACT THE MSCA NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS (NCP) IN ARMENIA FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FINDING POTENTIAL NATIONAL PARTNER.

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MOREOVER...

For the interested group of applicants, EU4Business [“Innovative Tourism and Technology Development for Armenia”](#) project will organise a dedicated Info Day to provide more insights on proposal submission.

The Project is co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is being implemented by German Development Cooperation GIZ under the umbrella of the Private Sector Development and TVET South Caucasus Programme. The project started in November 2019 and will run until April 2023. The project is part of the [EU4Business](#) initiative of the European Union.

DEFINITIONS

Europe

In the context of the Horizon Europe programme Europe designates the EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries (Armenia has been associated to EU Horizon 2020 programme since 2016 and the process of association to EU Horizon is in progress).

Associated Countries

The following countries have expressed a formal interest in association to Horizon Europe as of June 2021: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Republic of Serbia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Third Countries

All the countries that are neither EU members nor Horizon Europe Associated Countries are considered Third Countries.

Widening Countries

Member States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Associated Countries (subject to valid association agreements of third countries with Horizon Europe): Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

USEFULL LINKS

Find out more about [Postdoctoral Fellowships](#)

Get support from MSCA [National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#).

For Hosting offers please visit:

